

Woe is me: Besieged GSIS chief wallows in self-pity

By Michelle V. Remo

THE EMBATTLED president and general manager of the Government Service Insurance System, Winston Garcia, yesterday hit out at the government for its supposed "lack of support" for the cam-



WOE/A10



Sunday, October 10, 2004 ★★ 106 pages / 11 sections / vol. 19 / no. 305 P10

Changes to refresh PDI

EVERYTHING old is new again. This coming week, the Inquirer launches a series of changes, big and small, to refresh its look. Keep these dates in mind: Monday, Oct. 11-A bigger, better Entertainment section daily. Aside from its usual four-pager, back-to-back with the Sports section, it will have an additional four to eight pages. Tuesday, Oct. 12-Lifestyle Fitness will regularly have a minimum of eight pages or more. Wednesday, Oct. 13-Motoring with more pages moves from its current issue day Thursday to

CHANGES/A21

New power rates hit 4M

Exposing corruption hazardous to soldiers

By Fe Zamora

IN THE Armed Forces, exposing corruption can be hazardous to one's career—as illustrated by the case of ex-Capt. Rene Jarque.

In 1997, Jarque wrote an article in the Army Journal on the military practice of converting procurements into cash equivalents, or what is commonly called "conversion."

The 1986 graduate of the US Military Academy in West Point, who took part in the 1987 and 1989 coup attempts against the Aquino administration, wrote the article titled "Conversion: Ethics and Inefficiency" as a "constructive analysis" of what he thought was a important issue in the AFP.

But Army officials turned ballistic instead of analytical. As a senior official said then, Jarque's article was nothing but "hearsay" because "conversion does not exist."

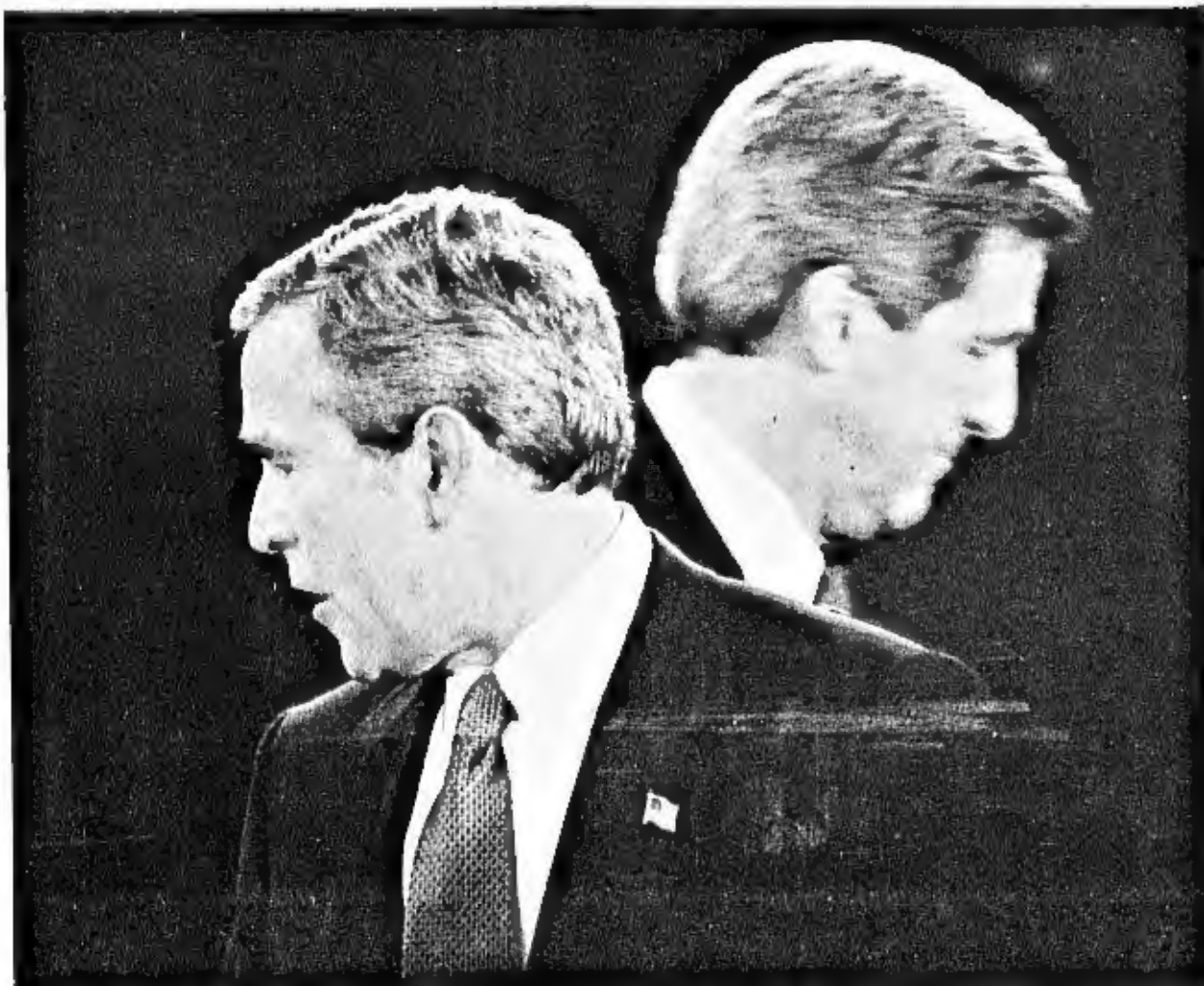
The Army leadership recalled copies of the magazine that had been sent to units in the Visayas and Mindanao. And those copies still at Army headquarters in Fort Bonifacio were set on fire—like witches at the stake.

Disillusioned, Jarque resigned months later to join a multinational firm.

"I have come to the conclusion that neither the pen nor the sword can stop corruption in the Armed Forces," Jarque, recalling the coup attempts and the controversy over his article, once told the Inquirer.

Young officers who close their eyes to corruption in their offices—or worse, cooperate with their seniors—usually get money, protection and an assurance of good positions

EXPOSING/A21



INSTINCT versus intellect, analysts say, defined the performance respectively of US President George W. Bush and his challenger, Sen. John Kerry, in their second debate yesterday morning (Manila time) at Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri. Like the first face-off of the presidential rivals in the Nov. 2 election, the surveys indicate Kerry won the second time around but by a slim margin. REL/TNS

THE DEBATE, PART II Bush rebounds, but Kerry still ahead

WASHINGTON—George W. Bush pulled even in the presidential debate sweepstakes Friday (Saturday morning in Manila), fighting himself in a second slugfest with Democrat John Kerry that highlighted a vivid contrast of instinct versus intellect, analysts said.

The feisty Texan rebounded from a poor performance in last week's debate and went toe-to-toe with the more pol-

ished Democrat in a crucial "town hall" test 25 days before the right Nov. 2 election.

Snap polls taken after the debate said Kerry narrowly beat Bush.

Kerry won by 44 to 41 percent, according to an ABC News poll taken immediately after the two finished their debate at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

A CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll also said Kerry had eked out a win over Bush, 47 to 45 percent, but in both polls the difference between the two candidates was smaller than the statistical margin of error.

Each poll surveyed 515 registered voters who watched the debate. The margin of error was plus or minus four to 4.5 percent.

BUSH/A22

'Open palm' brings culture of giving to slums

By Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

AFTER listening to Bukas Palad's presentation of "How People with No Homes Become a Vibrant Community," US Ambassador to the United Nations Ann Corkery remarked: "The secretary of the US Housing and Urban Development should have been here to learn from this experience."

This was at the 12th UN Commission on Sustainable Development in New

York last April.

Bukas Palad (Filipino for open palm) has come a long way, from its proponents' bewilderment on where to start 20 years ago to their present amazement at how work among the poor has grown by leaps and bounds and improved the quality of life of thousands. Nor just in the realm of the material but also in the spiritual.

Bukas Palad's more than 20 programs and services have quietly penetrated the

dark alleys of the urban landscape and changed them into bright places infused with hope.

In Pasay City and Parañaque City alone, more than 50,000 people have been reached. This is because of the Focolare Movement's so-called "economy of sharing" and people's generosity and zeal. Bukas Palad has now expanded to San Fernando City, La Union, and Davao City.

Bukas Palad, is "one of the social ex-

pressions" of the New Humanity section of the Focolare Movement in the Philippines.

The catchphrase derives from Jesus words, "Freely you have received, freely you give."

The Focolare is an "ecclesial movement within the Catholic Church" founded by Italian lay leader Chiara Lubich, now 84, in 1943 when the world was at war.

OPEN/A10

4 other orphans mourn loss of Rio in their lives

By Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

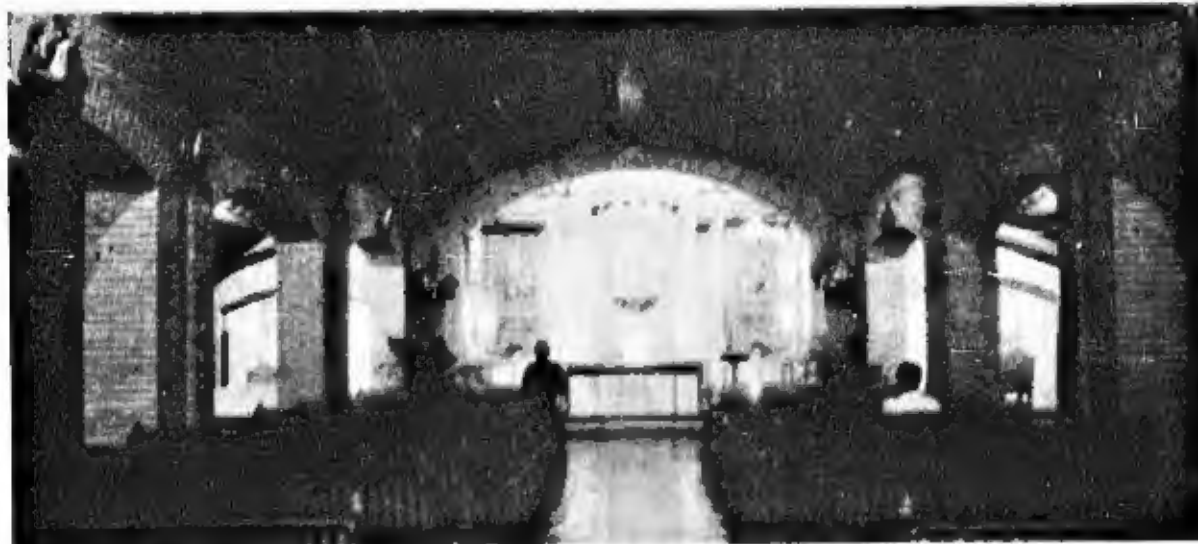
PONTEVEDRA, Negros Occidental—The four "other orphans" of Rio Diaz-Cojuangco will remember her as the woman who brought, and continues to bring, sunshine into their lives.

In January, the former vice mayor saved the four Pagarita sisters—Eva Janine, 3; Gemma, 5, who cannot speak and hear; Lea, 7, who is near blind, and Nancy, 8—from a slow death in Barangay Taloc, Bago City. They are now being cared for at the Casa de la Providencia, an orphanage.

At that time Rio was herself battling what was to be the last stage of colon cancer. She lost her six-year battle on Oct. 4. Her ashes were brought home yesterday from San Francisco, California, by her husband Rep. Charlie Cojuangco.

A social worker had informed Rio that four

4 OTHER/A21



A NICHE for Rio is inside the ivy-covered chapel in the Cojuangco estate, Hacienda Balbina, in Pontevedra, Negros Occidental. The chapel was a gift of Rio's father-in-law, Danding Cojuangco, to his wife Gretchen on their 25th wedding anniversary.



RIO DIAZ is home. Her ashes are now at the Santuario de San Antonio.

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Bicol Region, Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Second FRONT PAGE

Text us your feedback: inquirer.news.name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Manila	Partly Cloudy	Walla/Wallala	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Boac	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Lanao	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tegaybay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legaspi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Catagan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Young Muslims more radical—Murad

THE PHILIPPINES may be facing its last chance to end a 30-year-old conflict in Mindanao as younger Muslim rebels with radical beliefs grow in influence, the leader of the largest Muslim rebel group said on Saturday.

Al Haj Murad, chair of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), told Reuters his group had cut its links with radical groups, such as Jemaah Islamiyah which has been blamed for a string of bombings in Indonesia and the Philippines.

Murad denied allegations by the military and security analysts that JI cadres were still being trained at MILF camps.

But the MILF leader, in a rare interview since he succeeded late chair Salamat Hashim last year, voiced concern about a generational split in the MILF between moderates and younger fighters influenced by radical Islamic militancy.

"We want to see some tangible result of what we have struggled for for more than 30 years," said Murad, wearing his trademark

safari suit and guarded by scores of heavily armed rebel fighters at an MILF camp.

"There is now a process of changing from our generation to the younger generation. Most of them were exposed to the war, the violence of the war. We are afraid the younger generation would be more radical."

The MILF is set to resume formal peace talks with the government in the coming weeks after a break of more than three years which has seen bouts of fierce fighting.

A group of 51 Malaysian peace

monitors arrived in Manila on Saturday to oversee a year-old ceasefire, verify any violations and prevent conflicts from escalating. (See story below)

The peace talks will likely begin after Ramadan, the Muslim fasting month that starts on Oct. 15, Silvestre Afable, chair of the government panel for the peace process said on Saturday.

The run-up to the talks has been clouded by reports that the MILF was sheltering members of JI, believed responsible for a series of terror attacks, including

the 2002 Bali bombing.

The MILF has steadfastly denied allegations it knowingly had links with JI. But security analysts say there is overwhelming evidence that the regional militant group has used MILF camps in the sprawling southern island and continues to do so.

Earlier, in a press statement posted on the pro-MILF website luwaran.com, Murad said peace in Mindanao was "within our grasp" and that the Muslim-led rebel group was ready to sign a peace agreement with the government.

"The most civilized and practical

way to solve the Moro problem is through a negotiated political settlement," Murad said.

He said the MILF was "ready to resume the stalled formal peace talks with the government anytime."

It was also "ready to sign with the government a negotiated political solution that is just, lasting and comprehensive in order to terminate the age-old conflict in Mindanao," the statement said.

MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu confirmed the veracity of the Murad statement. Reuters; Allan A. Nawa, PDI Mindanao Bureau

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Malaysian peace monitors arrive in RP

By Alcuin Papa

MALAYSIAN peace monitors arrived in the Philippines yesterday on a mission billed as a major step toward ending a bloody Muslim separatist rebellion.

Numbering 51, the Malaysian troops, dressed in military fatigues, disembarked from a Malaysian Air Force C-130 plane at Villamor Air Base and will fly to Mindanao today to monitor ceasefire between Philippine forces and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

Maj. Gen. Dato Zulkifeli Bin Mohd Zin, head of the team, made it clear, however, that it was not his group's business to investigate reports that some 60 members of the Jemaah Islamiyah regional terror group were training with local and foreign militants in the Mt. Karao range in Lanao del Sur.

"Our mandate is only to monitor the ceasefire. If there are any violations, we will verify. We will be working very closely with both parties," Zulkifeli said.

The Malaysians will spend a year in the country to monitor the ceasefire agreed upon by the government and the MILF on June 22, 2001.

The team also included Vice Admiral Dato Ramlan Bin Mohamad Ali, chief of staff of the Malaysian Ministry of Defense's Headquarters, Malaysian Air Force.

During welcome ceremonies, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said the pursuit of peace was one of President Macapagal-Arroyo's goals in her 10-point agenda.

"Now I can see the light on the other side of the tunnel. The light is becoming brighter," Ermita said.

Gen. Rodolfo Garcia (ret.), undersecretary in the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process, said members of the ceasefire teams of the MILF and the government had agreed to go to Mt. Karao to verify the alleged presence of JI members in the area.

The international peace monitors are to be deployed in the cities of Cotabato, Davao, General Santos, Iligan and Zamboanga.

"They will be going to communities in conflict-affected areas and their presence there [will] give confidence to residents of these communities. And that will help the peace process," Garcia said.

The monitors will wear their own uniforms and carry handguns, but will be provided with 24-hour security by Philippine troops. The rebels had also given assurances of safety for the monitors.

Brunei is scheduled to send a group of 10 peacekeepers on Oct. 15 to join the Malaysians.

Rogue officers profit from war, say solons

By Cynthia D. Balana

SOME rogue military officials have turned the war in Mindanao into a virtual money-making machine, two congressmen from the South revealed yesterday.

House Majority Leader Prospero Nograles (Lakas, Davao City) said a closer scrutiny into the alleged ill-gotten wealth of certain military officers may hold the key to ending the war in Mindanao.

Recent reports had it some military officers, most of them generals, had become multimillionaires because of their involvement in anomalies.

Nograles said the same military officers may be responsible for sabotaging the present peace efforts with Muslim insurgents because "war is making them filthy rich."

Nograles said he would not be surprised if rogue elements in the Armed Forces of the Philippines were urging the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and other rebels to wage war against the government.

Rep. Benasing Macurambon (NPC, Lanao del Sur), himself a former Moro National Liberation Front rebel, said the war in Mindanao was being used to justify the appropriation of more funds for logistics and the acquisition of more firearms and ammunition, with the money then "diverted to the pockets of some military generals."

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Rosalie Olabiaga
Naga City, Bicol

September 29 Draw
Ar-gie Benito
Urdaneta, Pangasinan

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September 30 Draw
Diosdado Paglalunan
Gen. Tinio St., Gapan City

October 1 Draw
Momie Fetalvero
Valenzuela, Metro Manila

October 2 Draw
Gweneth Remigio
Novaliches, Q.C.

October 3 Draw
Ralf Joseph Miranda
Luban, Quezon

October 4 Draw
Michell Dy
Cainta, Rizal

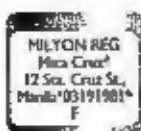
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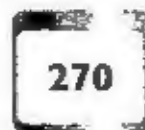


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Hanoi Declaration strengthens Asem

By Michael Lim Ubac

HANOI, Vietnam (via PLDT)—President Macapagal-Arroyo and heads of state from Asia and Europe yesterday adopted the "Hanoi Declaration on Closer Asem Economic Partnership," which would elevate the Asia-Europe Meeting (Asem) to an economic bloc.

The Hanoi declaration is a prelude to the eventual integration of all 38 Asem member nations with the European Commission (EC) into an economic partnership that could rival the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec).

The Hanoi accord will open doors for products from the Philip-

pines and other Asian nations to enter Europe and vice versa.

Unlike Apec, which is an economic alliance between some Asian and Western countries led by the United States, Asem includes all 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), three Asian countries, 25 nations comprising the European Union (EU) and the EC, for a membership of 39.

The 2.3 billion people from Asem countries represent roughly half of the world's population and half of the world's gross output.

"I would like to emphasize that this is the first Asem summit to adopt a document on the economic pillar," said Vietnamese

Prime Minister Phan Van Khai at the closing ceremony of the two-day fifth Asem summit (Asem 5).

The declaration attested to the common desire of member countries to further substantiate the partnership between the two continents, the Vietnamese leader added.

However, the declaration did not specify a target date for member-countries to bring down tariffs and import duties, or how much investment should flow from affluent countries in Europe to poorer nations in Asia.

Following the 15-minute closing ceremony, Ms Arroyo and a small group of senior Philippine officials left for Cebu City via

Philippine Airlines flight 001. The President was scheduled to stay the night in Bohol before proceeding to Manila the following day.

She returns empty-handed, however, with no economic package or fresh foreign investments from rich European nations to revive the ailing economy and help her administration solve the fiscal crisis.

At a press conference shortly after the closing rites, Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi said more concrete steps should be taken to "translate into actions the various agreements" at the summit.

"Japan will continue to contribute to the further evolution of Asem," said Koizumi.

Magnitude 6.2 quake causes jitters but no casualties, damage

By Volt Contreras

IN A POSH hotel in Metro Manila, the bride and groom, along with their guests, left their wedding reception in a rush when they felt the first jolt. In another hotel, casino tables were suddenly cleared of customers.

In Quezon City, families in one townhouse jumped into their cars, ready to evacuate.

Friday night's earthquake, felt in many areas of Luzon, caused no damage or casualties but it was strong enough to rattle nerves in the metropolis of 12 million people and outlying provinces.

Third tremor

Officials of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology were not ruling out another earthquake in the near future which would originate from the Manila Trench, whose movement caused Friday's tremor, as well as the one that shook the capital three weeks ago.

"It's possible to have a third (quake), we cannot rule that out. Although judging from the depth of the previous two, there won't be much shaking felt at the surface," seismology division chief Bartolome Bautista told the INQUIRER.

As of 1 p.m. yesterday, Phivolcs has recorded at least 13 after-shocks. The tremor measured a magnitude of 6.2 on the Richter Scale. The US Geological Survey's earthquake center in Golden, Colorado, put the magnitude at 6.6.

Seismic energy

Bautista said rocks stretching the Manila Trench, which stretches from western Mindoro to northern Luzon, had been undergoing a rupturing process in a southward direction. The rupture releases seismic energy that, in turn, causes earthquakes, he explained.

"The energy is being released gradually, hence we only have

moderate quakes, which is better than having a single yet massive release of energy," Bautista said.

Phivolcs Director Rene Solidum noted that the epicenter of last Friday's quake and that of Sept. 16 were only about 50 kilometers apart, adding that they also had about the same magnitude. The origin of the Friday quake was 94 km deep in the earth. That of the Sept. 16 quake was at a depth of 91 km.

Active generator

Agreeing with Bautista on a possible third quake, Solidum said this was because, historically, most tremors felt in the capital were traceable to the Manila Trench, "an active quake generator."

The center of the Sept. 16 quake was 61 km west of Balanga, Bataan. That of Friday's shock was 67 km southwest of Tagaytay City.

Phivolcs records showed the country experienced an average of "24 earthquakes a day" in 2003. Solidum clarified that only around 100 of the total quakes each year are actually "felt."

Of all the earthquakes that have hit the country in the last 400 years, only 90 had been destructive, he said.

Friday's quake occurred while a wedding reception was being held at the Newlyn Philippine Plaza. The newlyweds and their guests left the reception but came back on suffering any damage.

No damage or casualty was reported in Tagaytay City, which lay close to the epicenter.

The quake was felt strongest at intensity 5 in Puerto Galera in Oriental Mindoro; Tagaytay; San Fernando in Pampanga; Los Baños, Laguna, and Malolos, Bulacan.

With reports from Leila B. Salaverria; Thelma Orejas and Allan Macatuno, PDI Central Luzon Desk, and Delfin T. Mallari Jr., Marlon Ramos, Madonna T. Virola and Romulo O. Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

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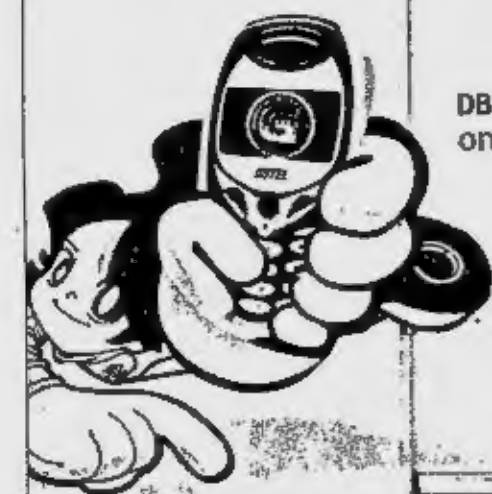
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
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A SENATOR yesterday proposed raising power rates to enable National Power Corp. to recoup its losses, saying this would restore the country to fiscal health much faster than passing the eight tax measures proposed by President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Sen. Ralph Recto, chair of the Senate ways and means committee, said that even if the government absorbed Napocor's P500-billion debt, there would still be a need to hike power rates by 74 centavos per kilowatt-hour to reduce the power firm's operating costs.

The rate increase, if approved by the Energy Regulatory Commission, would raise P27.2 billion for the cash-strapped Napocor, Recto said.

"A rate hike that would capture Napocor's real cost in producing power would improve the books of the government rather than tax measures in the pipeline," Recto said in a statement.

Recto also disputed the international rating agency Standard & Poor's assertion that the country's credit rating might drop if Congress fails to pass the President's tax measures.

"Standard and Poor's is barking up the wrong tree," he said. "I think S&P's warnings should be directed at the Energy Regulatory Commission."

Malacañang has certified as urgent eight measures that would raise P80 billion for the government, but the Senate indicated that it would junk those measures that would impose more "indirect taxes" on the poor. **Bureauinfo**

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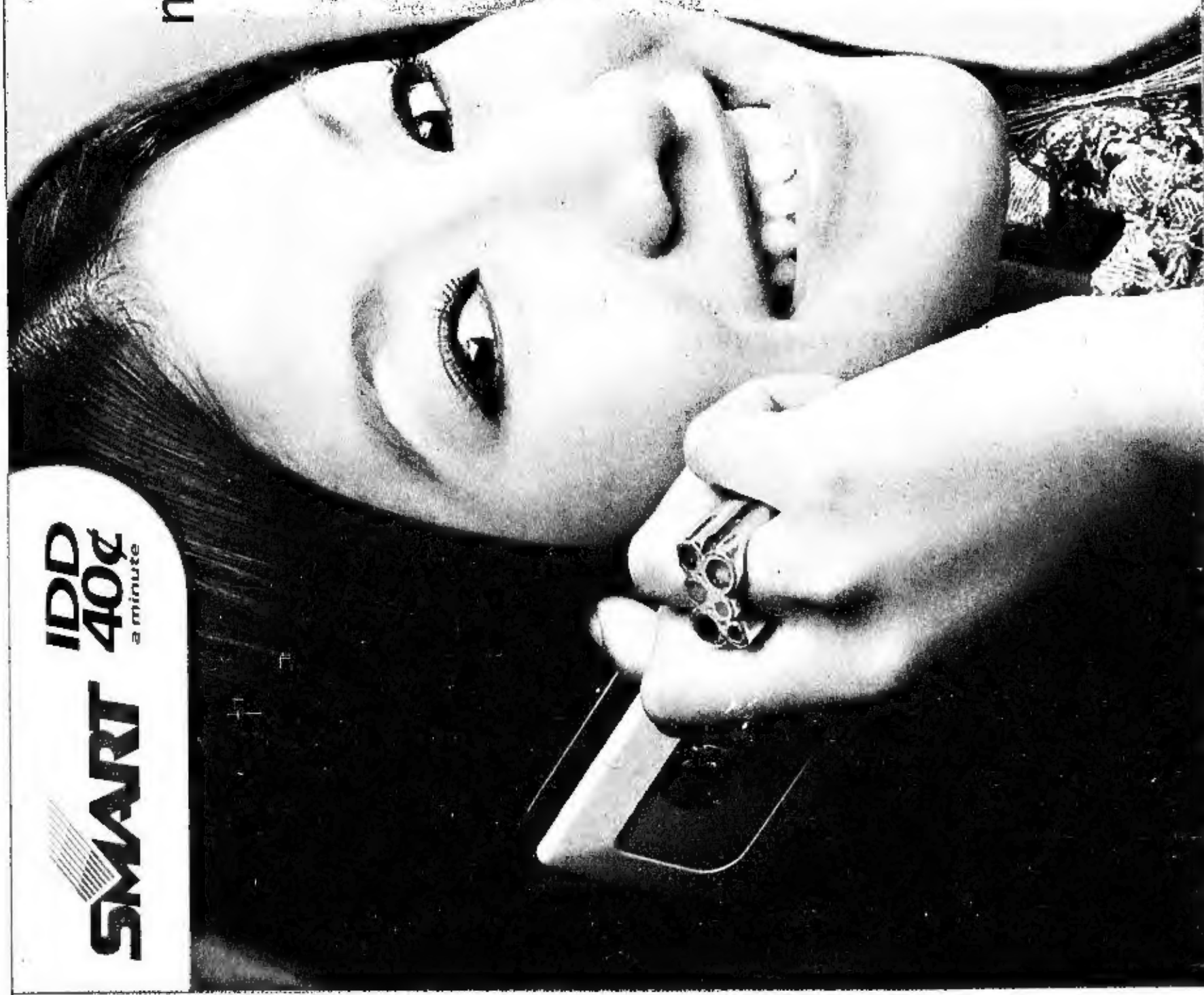
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¹ White, Faich, Borer, Makuch. Cardiovascular Thrombotic Events in Arthritis Trials of the Cyclooxygenase-2 Inhibitor Celecoxib. The American Journal of Cardiology. 2003;92:411-418.

² Graham et al presented at International Society of Pharmacoeconomics August 2004 and accepted as an abstract at American College of Rheumatology, October 2004. In a retrospective study, no increased risk of heart attacks or sudden cardiac deaths relative to those who had not taken NSAID for at least 60 days.

³ NDC, August 2004.

US aid to RP to continue, says envoy

DAVAO CITY—US Ambassador to the Philippines Francis Ricciardone said the financial assistance being extended by the United States to the Philippines would continue, regardless of the outcome of the November US presidential elections.

"The relation between US and RP was always strong even before (George W.) Bush was elected president. I don't see any big changes in the partnership of these two countries," Ricciardone told reporters during a press conference here Thursday.

Ricciardone said his government would continue to undertake development projects in the country, especially in Mindanao, to uplift the condition of the people.

The US-funded Growth with Equity in Mindanao (GEM) drafts and oversees the implementation of projects aimed at boosting the island's development through the acceleration of peace and economic activities in war-ravaged areas.

Ricciardone, who was here for the launching of Asia's first US virtual consulate, admitted the peace and order problem in Mindanao had always been the stumbling block to the island's development.

He also took the opportunity to clarify that the US had no interest in exploiting Mindanao once peace finally came to the region.

He said contrary to the allegations of militant groups, the setting up of the virtual consulate was not intended to gather information that the US could use to exploit Mindanao's riches.

Ricciardone said the virtual consulate is intended to benefit American citizens and Filipinos transacting business with the US Embassy. **Anthony S. Allada and Dennis Jay C. Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau**

Gov't scored for dragging feet on Sabah

By TJ Burgonio

OPPOSITION Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. yesterday twitted the government for dragging its feet on the country's claim to oil-rich Sabah "to the detriment" of the country and the heirs of the Sultanate of Sulu.

The Senate minority leader charged that President Macapagal-Arroyo exemplified the government's "apathy" toward the claim when she abolished the bipartisan Executive-Legislative Advisory Council on the Sabah issue last month.

Foreign Undersecretary Franklin Ebdalin's admission that the claim had been "put in the backburner" to avoid straining diplomatic ties with Malaysia only made this "more obvious," Pimentel said in a statement.

"Ms Arroyo would be doing an injustice to her father's legacy if she will not give the Sabah claim the attention it deserves," Pimentel said, recalling that President Diosdado Macapagal initiated the country's territorial claim on Sabah in 1962.

A foreign affairs official, however, said the Department of Foreign Affairs was quietly analyzing and studying documents pertaining to the claim just in case the government decides to revive it before the International Court of Justice.

"We've not given up on it," said the official, who asked not to be named, pointing as proof to the government's firm position not to establish a consulate in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah's capital.

Echoing Ebdalin, the official said the government was hesitant to press the claim anew for the sake of "regional cooperation." Both the Philippines and Malaysia are part of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

But the source doubted the claim would prosper, noting that the ICJ requires both parties—Manila and Kuala Lumpur—to agree to bring it for arbitration before it assumes jurisdiction over it. Kuala Lumpur has maintained that Sabah is part of Malaysia.

The former North Borneo state was part of the Sulu sultanate until it was leased to a British trading company in 1878. This was ceded in 1963 to Malaysia, which continues to pay annual rent to the heirs of the Sulu sultan.

Naia takes steps to block bird flu

INTERNATIONAL flights from Thailand will be directed to disembark at a special airport gate at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia) to prevent the entry of the bird flu virus into the country, it was announced Saturday.

The Manila International Airport Authority said in a statement that arrivals on flights from Thailand would be directed to a designated airport gate where a special monitoring team would be assigned to examine them.

This will be done "for closer and effective monitoring and to avoid inconvenience to other passengers," the airport authority said.

An eight-year-old girl died of bird flu in northern Thailand recently, that country's 11th confirmed victim of the virus this year.

There have been no cases of bird flu found in the Philippines but the government has banned the import of poultry and live birds from many Southeast Asian countries as a precautionary measure. **AFP**

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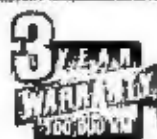
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'Open palm' brings culture of giving to city slums

From page A1

The Focolare aims to fulfill the last testament of Jesus, "May they all be one." Unity is its reason for being. Focolare is the Italian word for hearth or fireside. There are about four million Focolare members worldwide, consisting of both lay, religious and members of the clergy.

When Lubich visited the Philippines in 1982, she was appalled by the poverty she saw in some parts of the metropolis. To the Focolare members, she spoke about "dying for

your own people."

"The desire was there but nobody knew how," recalls BP vice chair Lilia Tantoco. Then in 1983, someone did die. Former Sen. Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr. was assassinated upon his arrival from US exile.

The groundswell of protest was a signal for things to change. Drawing from the fire that had been lit and from their own "fireside," the Focolare decided to do something very concrete for the suffering masses.

The chosen place was Tramo in Pasay City

where gangs and "Indian pans" (darts) ruled at that time and many homes were so cramped family members took turns sleeping.

The first activity was a rummage sale for the poor. Focolare members dug into their closets. They netted a mere P2,500 but there was no stopping the energy and desire to break into people's hearts.

Volunteers

BP President Edna Villaraza recalls: "The people were on guard. They thought they might be used. But they came for the free clinic. So many had tuberculosis."

Someone soon offered a rundown warehouse to serve as a center. Volunteers took turns in sprucing up the place. Medical practitioners offered their services free. It was not unusual to see rich people cleaning toilets or doing carpentry work for the poor.

Once, when a very ill patient needed to be rushed to the hospital and there was no vehicle around, a Good Samaritan sent a chauffeured Mercedes Benz.

The poor were not outdone in industry and, slowly, they started to feel they belonged. Someone described the unceasing work as "a contest in loving."

From birth to death

But the ills of the body were not BP's sole concern. There had to be a holistic approach in dealing with urban decay and lifting the community from its deplorable state.

"From birth to death," "Service to life," These were the catchphrases for BP's expansion.

Fast forward to 1990. The old warehouse had outlived its purpose. BP bought a piece of land from the government and a five-story building began to rise at the corner of Tramo and Gil Puyat Ave. Donors from near and far, many of them ordinary wage earners, helped make the dream come true. Even the poor offered their widow's mite, some just enough to buy one hollow block.

The building now houses various BP ministries and is a beehive of activity. When the Inquirer spent an entire day in the area recently, a School for Life seminar for young adults was going on. This 16-day module tackles many subjects, among them, life values, sexuality, family, relationships, career, spirituality, service, name it. The young get in touch with their own selves and even their brokenness. Sharing sessions turn tearful at times and those inclined to share their tragic stories do not lack for listeners.

Enriched and inspired, the graduates move on. Many are recommended for scholarships or jobs. So far 333 have enjoyed scholarships, many in Don Bosco Technical School. Not a few, like Genna (not her real name) who had a long history with drugs, have given up their old ways and found new paths of service within the fold of the Focolare.

Adoption at a Distance of the Focolare's New Families offers poor children an education. An individual or family here or abroad takes care of the needs of a child until he or she finishes school. The sharing between parties across national boundaries cannot but deepen over the years.

50-unit housing

But in terms of love of neighbor, nothing could be more literally concrete than the 50-unit housing project for the poor that rose in the slums of Pasay City, a stone's throw from the Focolare Center where female members with vows reside. A family had to be among the poorest to qualify.

The housing project stands on land bought from a family who thought having homes for the poor on their property was a way to honor their patriarch. They were built *bayanihan* style and through the National Home Mortgage Assistance Program. The units are neatly lined back to back and face to face. An alley slices through. Each two-story unit is all of 21 square meters. Families pay a monthly sum for 25 years.

One of the units serves as a handicrafts and sewing center. In the compound are a small bakery and an ice cream "factory" where Manig Alfredo concocts his "BeePee" delights. He is on call for parties and serves from Pinoy-style ice cream carts, complete with Manang Sorbetero costume.

BP does not receive foreign and institutional funding which most NGOs enjoy. The miracle is that all of these thrive on the generosity of individuals and groups and, of course, of those within the Focolare movement itself.

Economy of communion

For example, the movement's New Humanity has the so-called Economy of Communion which groups together 800 enterprises owned by Focolare members around the world. It stresses sharing rather than having and "practices the principles of fraternity and freedom" by dividing the profits into three.

The first part goes to alleviating poverty; the second is used to develop the business; and the third is to help people learn about the culture of giving and discover the joy it brings.

The Focolare's New Families is behind the Adoption at a Distance Program which sees to the poor kids' education from elementary to college.

But much comes from the kindness of ordinary people, friends, families and strangers.

Discovering dignity

The past 20 years, Bukas Palad, through its well-defined programs, has helped persons discover their dignity and self-worth and to be productive citizens. It has created an "atmosphere of communion where no one is so poor he or she cannot give, and no one is so rich that he or she cannot receive."

The fruit of Focolare sharing is apparent, the warmth of the "fireside" is there, in communities, in the lives of the simple folk who have been touched by the "open palm."

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Successful candidates will need to demonstrate a strong academic background, as well as the ability to think critically and creatively. The ability to make a positive contribution to the Beacon School community is also required. The family of the successful candidate will be required to demonstrate a need for financial assistance.

Following receipt of applications, candidates will be shortlisted and a number will be interviewed by the Scholarship Committee, and by school academic personnel. This will include academic testing. As well, parents of shortlisted candidates will be interviewed by the Scholarship Committee.

Applications, including a brief resume, and latest school academic records, should be sent, in an envelope marked "Scholarship Application", to: The Headmaster, The Beacon School, PCPD Building, 2332 Chino Roces Avenue Extension, Taguig.

Applications will close at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday 28, October 2004.

Woe is me: Besieged GSIS chief wallows ...

From page A1

paugh that he said he was waging to reform the state-run pension fund.

In a self-pitying performance at a forum on governance and compensation in state-owned companies at De La Salle University yesterday, Garcia said he felt that he was all alone in pursuing his cause.

"This is what I have to endure to put to order the GSIS, but no one—maybe except for my executives—has supported me. Working in government is really not worth it," he said.

But while he was frustrated with government service, the beleaguered GSIS chief maintained that he had no intention of resigning.

Leaving the GSIS would mean giving it up to "the vultures," he said.

'Crooks' want him out

Garcia, who has been battling criticisms, protests, graft charges and calls for his ouster, claimed that the attack on him was being orchestrated by "the crooks" in government who are being hurt by the reforms he has initiated.

Aside from the series of protest actions staged by disgruntled GSIS employees last week, Garcia also faces an ouster move by some members of the House of Representatives who accuse him of mismanaging the operations and funds of the GSIS, and of cutting the benefits of its members.

Protesting GSIS employees said the scandals during Garcia's term, such

as the P46-million purchase of a Juan Luna painting in 2002 and problems in the loan processing of members, should be enough reason for Malacañang to replace Garcia.

Garcia defended the purchase of the Juan Luna painting as an investment from which the GSIS could earn much. He said the delays in loan processing were only temporary and were a normal consequence of the state-run pension fund's computerization program.

He said his reform programs had significantly improved the financial health of the GSIS but complained that the media highlighted what he said were baseless criticisms against him and not his performance.

Media blamed

"Despite my performance, the media pictured me as a bungling executive of the GSIS who is staying in office simply because of the so-called votes that helped deliver the President to Malacañang," he said.

Garcia proudly presented to the forum what he said were the improvements in the financial standing of the GSIS since he took over in 2001.

He claimed that the GSIS earned gross revenues of P75.2 billion and a net revenue of P37.5 billion last year, which he said was the highest ever recorded in the pension fund's 66-year history.

Garcia also said that the GSIS's assets grew from only P182.8 billion in 2001 to P297.4 billion in 2003.

(A check of the Commission on Audit report on the pension fund showed that GSIS net revenue in 2003 was P35.6 billion and assets that year stood at P271.2 billion.)

Reinsurance syndicates

The GSIS chief also reported that the pension fund's net income from its general insurance business almost quadrupled, from P486 million in 2000 to P1.848 billion in 2003. He said the figure was even projected to reach P2.4 billion by the end of 2004.

Aside from handling the pension funds of state employees, the GSIS is also engaged in the business of providing insurance for the assets of government agencies and corporations.

Garcia said that he was able to grow the income of the GSIS from its general insurance business by adopting the policy of "retaining more risk and less reinsurance."

Under this policy, the GSIS has significantly reduced its dependence on reinsurance companies, thereby saving on cost and earnings, he said. "Reinsurance syndicates lost billions from 2001 up to the present," from the loss of this

business, Garcia said. He said the reinsurance companies had been urging him to retain their services.

The GSIS chief said those who were passionately resisting his continued stay in office were people had taken advantage of the inefficiencies of the GSIS in the past.

Computerization

He said that before he joined the GSIS, the pension fund did not have a reliable database of membership profiles. This was the reason some GSIS members and employees were able to obtain new loans even without having paid their earlier loans, and why there were cases of fictitious names being registered as members for the purpose of obtaining loans and benefits.

Through the computerization program that he initiated, Garcia said the GSIS discovered that 2.7 million names were registered as GSIS members when there were only 1.3 million state employees covered by the pension system.

One of the most criticized programs of Garcia was the implementation of the so-called premium-based policy, under which the amount of pension that a GSIS member would receive would be commensurate with the amount of contributions that the member remitted to the pension fund.

GSIS members said the policy was unjust as it was not the members' fault but that of the government agencies they worked for if their contributions were not remitted to the pension fund.

Fat salary

But Garcia said the fund should not be made to suffer for the inefficiency of government agencies, otherwise the pension claims of other members would suffer.

Concerning the criticism of his fat salary, which amounts to P350,000 a month, he said that instead of questioning why salaries of officers of government-owned and -controlled corporations were higher than those of government officials, people should instead ask why government officials were receiving very low salaries.

Garcia, who said he had voluntarily cut his monthly salary by P150,000, expressed annoyance at the carping over his obtaining huge loans from the GSIS to buy a house and a luxury car. He said there was nothing wrong with his taking out the loans as it was his right as a GSIS member.

Audience applauds

"I live in Cebu and I have no house here. I have to borrow so I can put up a house and work here in Manila. What do they want me to do, steal?" he said.

"Receiving a high salary is not immoral. What is immoral is that while a congressman earns only P30,000 a month, he is able to spend millions for elections and to buy houses and cars in cash," Garcia said, eliciting applause from the audience.

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The WORLD

Editor Lurerna B. Gueco

British hostage beheaded

BAGHDAD—Militants beheaded British hostage Kenneth Bigley near Baghdad despite secret 11th-hour efforts by London to free him from kidnappers whose video messages had played on British emotions on the war in Iraq for three weeks.

A Reuters journalist saw a video of Thursday's (Friday in Manila) killing in which Bigley appeared to plead for his life. Abu Dhabi television said on Friday it received the film but refused "to serve as a mouthpiece for such groups" by showing the footage.

The video seen by Reuters showed Bigley pleading for his life as six men stood behind him. One read a statement, then cut off Bigley's head with a knife and brandished it.

The tape showed the unshaven Bigley wearing an orange jump suit like those worn by detainees in US prisons, including Islamist suspects at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.

A flag of the Tawhid and Jihad group hung above the militants and after Bigley spoke, one of the militants read a statement saying Blair had failed to meet the group's demands.

The 62-year-old construction engineer's two American colleagues were filmed being beheaded in the week after the trio were seized by gunmen from their Baghdad house on Sept. 16.

The kidnappers, led by suspected al-Qaida ally Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, then released videos of a distraught Bigley begging British Prime Minister Tony Blair to save him.

Bigley's death was a new setback for Blair after heavy criticism of his decision to join the US invasion of Iraq and confirmation this week that his justification—that Saddam Hussein had banned weapons—was ill-founded.

Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said Britain's contact was "an attempt to dissuade them from carrying out their threat" but the kidnappers stuck to demands for the release of female prisoners in Iraq—even though Britain holds no women.

Blair said hostage-takers must not win. "I feel utter revulsion at the people who did this, not just at the barbaric nature of the killing but the way frankly they played with the situation over the past few weeks," he told reporters.

The messages between London and the kidnappers began after a man approached the British embassy in Baghdad four days earlier "presenting himself as a potential intermediary," Straw said.

"I don't believe there was or could have been anything further we could have done," he said. "Nothing can justify his killing. It is a terrible crime."

Iraq Prime Minister Iyad Allawi said the Tawhid and Jihad group led by Jordanian Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, a suspected ally of Osama bin Laden, had planned to kill Bigley from the outset.

"Their intention from the start was to kill him, but they were trying to exploit this mat-

ter for a long time for publicity. Their intention was to kill him," he said.

There was speculation that Bigley may have been killed because of a rescue attempt or sweeps by US forces. But Allawi said that while there had been intense efforts to secure Bigley's release, there was no attempt to free him by force.

British officials also denied there was a botched rescue bid.

Allawi also said he did not think the killing was related to this week's security sweep by US and Iraqi forces southwest of Baghdad. The operation includes Latifiya, where insurgent sources in Fallujah said Bigley had been killed on Thursday.

The US military hit the area again on Friday with an air strike on rebel-held Fallujah,

50 km west of the capital, killing 11 people. Fallujah is a stronghold of Zarqawi, America's main foe in Iraq.

It was still unclear how Bigley's death would impact Blair politically, after the prime minister flatly refused to apologize last week for taking Britain into the Iraq war alongside US President George W. Bush.

In Britain, Bigley's family said it had received "absolute proof" of his killing. His brother Paul urged Blair to end the war in Iraq, saying "Mr. Blair has blood on his hands."

BRITON Kenneth Bigley held hostage in Iraq, in this image from video made available from his captors on the internet Sept. 30.



Rescuers search for survivors of Sinai bombing

TABA, Egypt—Rescue workers dug through the wreckage of an Egyptian resort hotel on Saturday, still hoping to find survivors after a series of bomb blasts in the Sinai Peninsula killed at least 33 people.

Israel, suspected the attacks were linked to al-Qaida.

Egypt's al-Ahram daily said Egyptian police were questioning 12 suspects about the explosions. An interior ministry spokesperson said dozens of people were being questioned to gather information, but said it was too early to talk about suspects.

Many bodies were thought to lie beneath the rubble of the luxury Hilton hotel at Taba, right on the Israeli border. It was the target of the biggest of a series of explosions on the Red Sea coast of the Sinai peninsula.

"Hope is our fuel. We are hoping there is a pocket of air where someone could be alive," said Col. Gideon Bar-on, commander of the Israeli Army search and rescue unit, in Taba.

"It could take days for this fog on the details and identities to clear up," he said, adding that four bodies were pulled out of the debris overnight.

The Israeli Army said at least 33 people were killed. Most were Israelis, but officials said they also included Egyptians and Russians.

Most were killed in the Taba explosion, but two Israelis died in a near simultaneous suicide bombing at a beach further down the coast. Egypt's official news agency said 149 people were wounded.

Israeli defense officials and an Egyptian security source said the blasts appeared to be linked to al-Qaida.

A previously unknown pro-al-Qaida Islamist group called Islamic Tawhid Brigades claimed responsibility for the blast on a website. The claim, along with claims from two other unknown groups, could not be verified.

"There are lot of parties saying they are responsible. But investigations are ongoing and we are gathering more and more information and leads. I am confident we will know the culprits very soon," South Sinai Governor Mustafa al-Afifi said.

Hammas, the main Palestinian faction behind suicide attacks that have killed hundreds of Israelis during a 4-year-old uprising, denied any role in the explosions but said it supported them. Reuters



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Afghans vote in their first-ever poll

KABUL—Afghans voted on Saturday in a historic poll that aimed to give the mountainous and impoverished Islamic nation its first elected president and perhaps end over a quarter-century of war.

Interim leader Hamid Karzai is widely expected to win against 17 rivals, among them warlords, royalists and even an Islamic poet. But the size of the field could deny Karzai the outright majority needed to avert a runoff.

There were only scattered reports of violence despite widespread fears of attacks by the Islamic fundamentalist Taliban militants, who have vowed to sabotage what they call a US-orchestrated sham.

Some injuries were reported but no deaths.

By midday, the main election-related problem stemmed from workers using the wrong pen to mark people's fingers after they voted. The ink was not indelible and could be washed off, leading to an uproar among several candidates concerned about possible multiple voting.

Polls opened at 7 a.m. and are to close at 4 p.m. The focus is on how many people vote in defiance of the Taliban and whether the US-backed favorite Karzai can get the 51 percent win he needs to avoid a November runoff.

"It is not important who wins," the 46-year-old Karzai said after casting his vote at a special poll booth in the prime minister's office for senior government officials.

"It is important that the people are choosing their destiny and eventually if I win or any other one, the victory will be of the Afghan people and we (need) to accept that."

The elections would signal the end of Islamic extremism and set the pace for "irreversible" democracy, US Secretary of State Colin Powell said.

He said parliamentary elections next spring followed by the seating of parliament and ongoing strengthening of local institutions and deepening of civic education would "embody the consolidation of democracy" in the country,

ridden by decades of internal conflict.

"The (presidential) elections, while extremely important, are part of an ongoing and irreversible process," Powell said in an opinion piece on Saturday's polls, titled "Democracy Rises in Afghanistan," for placement in foreign papers.

As voting began, the capital Kabul was blanketed in a thick haze from a dust storm which started on Friday evening, considered by many to be a bad omen.

But Abdul Hakim Arghandiwal, a 65-year-old on his way to a polling station, saw it as a positive sign.

"This dust storm means that Allah is angry, not with innocent people but with terrorists. They have wrong aims. I think this dust storm is to prevent terrorists from spoiling this historical event."

Because of the dust and a drop in temperature, few people voted early in Kabul. But the tempo picked up by midday, and at some centres it was taking up to an hour to get inside the polling booth because of the long queue.

Karzai's team is reportedly hoping that at least 60 percent of the almost 12 million eligible voters will turn out. That would go a long way to proving that democracy has made a strong start in a nation invaded by US-led forces three years ago and still controlled in large part by regional warlords.

The Taliban regime was ousted in late 2001 for refusing to hand over militant chief Osama bin Laden, mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks on US cities that year. The world's most wanted man is believed to be somewhere along the border with Pakistan.

In Kandahar city, the former headquarters of the Taliban and still the source of much of its support, the atmosphere was festive as large crowds of men pushed to get into a voting site near the blue-tiled Kherqi Sharif mosque.

On the other side of the street, only a trickle of women covered in burqa veils entered a school to vote, as many in the deeply conservative region have said they would not allow their wives and daughters to participate. Reuters, AP and AFP



AN AFGHAN woman casts her ballot in the presidential election in Kabul Oct. 9. AFP

Howard runs away with Aussie poll

SYDNEY Prime Minister John Howard scored a convincing victory in Australia's federal election Saturday, winning a historic fourth term in a vote that will ensure the staunch US ally will keep its troops in Iraq for the foreseeable future.

With more than 60 percent of the votes tallied, Labor Party leader Mark Latham conceded defeat in a speech to supporters in western Sydney, saying he called Howard to congratulate him.

"Tonight was not our night," Latham told the crowd.

The election was widely seen abroad as the first referendum for the three leaders who launched the March 2003 invasion of Iraq, with US President George W. Bush facing a ballot next month and Britain's Tony Blair probably facing voters next year.

Labor had vowed to bring the roughly 900 Australian troops deployed in Iraq home by Christmas, while Howard insisted they would stay until the Iraqis asked them to leave.

Howard was expected to claim victory in a speech soon after Latham's concession. His team became confident soon after early counting showed the conservative coalition had taken an early lead, and became ecstatic as this held throughout the night.

This "is an extraordinary feat for Prime Minister John Howard," Finance Minister Nick Minchin said earlier on Australian Broadcasting Corp. television.

With around 65 percent of the votes counted, official figures showed Howard's coalition had 52.3 percent to Labor's 47.7 percent, giving it a clear lead in the race for a majority in parliament's 150-seat lower house, where government is formed.

"I think at this stage of the evening it's going to be almost impossible for Labor to win this election," Labor Sen. Robert Ray told Channel Nine television just a few hours into the count. "We are too far behind in too many seats at this stage for victory."

Australians had focused more on the economy, health and education than on Howard's unpopular decision to join the Bush-led coalition in Iraq. AP

Locusts threaten Africa anew; food crisis feared

DAKAR—Swarms of desert locusts are on the move across north and west Africa in what experts warn could be an even more devastating invasion than the one earlier this year, renewing fears of a food crisis.

Swarms of immature locusts invaded southwestern Libya near the Algerian border this week, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said, and continued to form in southern Mauritania, the country worst-hit by this year's infestation.

Northern Senegal, Mali, and northern Burkina Faso are also fertile breeding grounds for the young locusts, which have formed the worst swarms in more than a decade, able to carpet a square kilometer with up to 80 million of the finger-length insects, which change color from pink to yellow as they mature.

Southern Guinea's forested region on the border with Liberia has also been invaded by locusts, local media reported. FAO's locust chief Clive Elliott said that the UN agency had not seen any evidence of their presence, however.

A series of good rains, first in the Sahel last summer and then in northwest Africa during winter and spring have created favorable conditions for locust development, allowing at least four generations of locusts to breed in quick succession.

"Despite control operations, new swarms are expected to form in October and should begin to head toward northwestern Africa, probably on a bigger scale than in February," FAO said in a statement Tuesday.

A second generation of egg-laying and hatching is expected in some parts of the Sahel leading to the formation of new larvae bands from mid-October.

The life span of a desert locust lasts between three and five months. A mature gregarious female can lay between 95 and 160 eggs at a time and averages three laying cycles during her lifetime. AFP

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OPINION

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Ducking

GEN Narciso Abaya is known as an officer of efficiency and honesty. However, in the case of the decision of the Armed Forces of the Philippines to hand Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia for prosecution over to civilian courts, his actions might be construed as tantamount to ducking for cover.

The AFP chief of staff argues that subjecting Garcia to a court martial (as this newspaper called for the other day) runs the risk of tarnishing the military. In his words, "If... the decision of the court martial is in favor of General Garcia, we will be accused of protecting or being biased again." We submit, however, that by washing its hands of Garcia, the AFP is acting to protect him and therefore is showing its bias. Subjecting Garcia to civilian criminal prosecution serves to protect, or rather, insulate the military from meting out justice to one of its officers, and betrays a bias for turning a military scandal into a political game and against the military's own institutions of justice and punishment.

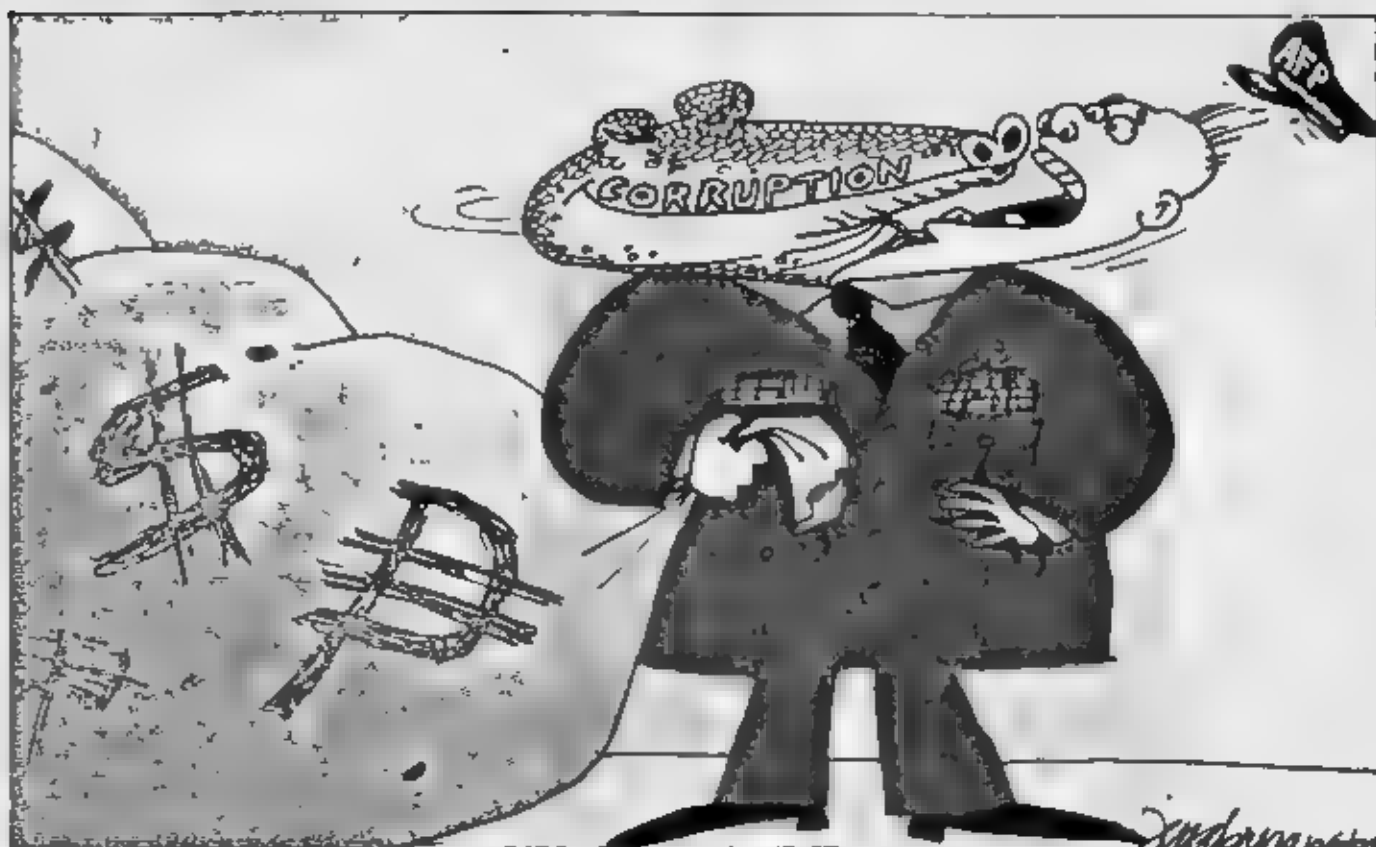
No one has argued that the military, under its Articles of War that date back to 1938 (variously amended in the 1950s, the 1960s and under martial law) lacks the legal means to investigate, try and punish Garcia—or that the same mechanisms deprive him of his day in court. At the same time, no one has argued that civilian authorities lack the jurisdiction and means to criminally prosecute him as well. The allegation that Garcia has amassed millions of pesos in unexplained wealth merits the most thorough investigation and prosecution by all authorized organs of the state.

By refusing to subject Garcia to a court martial, the AFP is putting the entire burden of prosecution on civilian authorities. This serves to, first of all, reduce the chance of punishment by 50 percent. It also increases the chances of Garcia vindicating himself by the same percentage. Just as holding a court martial might present a no-win situation for the AFP, as Abaya maintains, so will a purely civilian prosecution present the potential of a no-win situation for the public. After all, the cozy club of corrupt generals could all grouse that they have been subjected to an unfair ordeal at the hands of politically motivated and publicity-hungry civilians. Knowing the military mentality as we do, a conviction by civilian courts still affords Garcia the saving grace of complaining to his fellow generals over their brandy that he was denied a hearing before his peers.

This, in fact, is the logic behind legislation such as the Articles of War. A martial organization that requires obedience and demands discipline does so on the presumption that orders are lawfully given and that leadership is maintained through honor and not only seniority. The closed confines of military life requires trust, and if an officer (or any military person, for that matter) violates that trust by breaking the military code of justice, the primary responsibility for administering that justice must be with the military. Civilian supremacy, embodied in civilian authority, retains the right—and obligation—to ensure that military justice, while operating under its own peculiar set of circumstances, should conform to the Constitution and our laws. This is why the President can demand that there be no whitewash or cover-up while her spokesperson speaks of "an opportunity for the AFP to cleanse the uniform of the taint brought about by allegations of corruption."

Justice begins at home. The AFP cannot renounce a court martial of Garcia because it has the duty, and not just the right, to try its own officers. By all means, throw the book at Garcia, the AFP should not leave the throwing to civilians. It sets a dangerous precedent of a scandal exposed by civilians, being left to civilians to prosecute and punish, when, from the very start, the whole scandal was caused by an officer who forgot one fundamental requirement of rank, which is gentlemanly and honorable conduct.

While the evidence is damning, it is true no person should be condemned as guilty until proven so in a court of law. By renouncing the duty to court martial Garcia, the AFP ironically is also depriving him of the right to prove himself innocent before his peers—the only court, in reality, that our officers' corps hold with respect.



On turning 80

SEPARATE
OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz



CONGRATULATE me, and thank you very much. Tomorrow I'll be 80 years old. I'm still up and about, by the grace of God and my dear wife Sally, who has taken care of me since our marriage 52 years ago. My children have all been a joy to me and have given their parents little trouble except the usual youthful mischiefs that they have now outgrown. My grandchildren have added happiness to the twilight of my life although I will not be able to see the youngest of them grow up. Cara just turned 10, Bala is 9, and Bea is only 4 months old. I have written a letter to Bea that she can read 10 years from now, when I'll no longer be around.

Although some say that I don't look and act like an octogenarian (that's an intimidating word), there are times when I wish I still had the vivacity of my younger years. I especially miss the nocturnal adventures that gave Sally and me six healthy children at almost annual intervals. They were five boys in succession—Cesar, Claro, Celso, Carlo and Isagani Jr.—before we finally got a daughter, Cynthia, who is the apple of my eyes. Although I don't blame them, my regret is that they have been rather sparing with their progeny. My own parents had 18 grandchildren from six children while my own six children have produced for Sally and me only seven grandchildren.

Since the luxury of old people is remembrance, I will tomorrow look back to some of the more beautiful memories of my happy life. They will be like roses in December as Sir James Barrie would put it. Many of them were retained in a photo album lovingly kept by my mother (she had one for each of us children) that I have, sadly, misplaced. It contained one important picture taken when I was chosen one of the officers during the yearly Boys Week in Manila and we were all taken to Malacanan to visit Governor General Frank Mur-

phy. I approached him and a cameraman took our picture together—Murphy to later become justice of the US Supreme Court and I to become justice of our own Supreme Court. I was only 10 years old then.

When I graduated from the Legarda Elementary School and missed top honors in favor of a girl classmate, all the boys struck and boycotted the commencement exercises. At the Mapa High School, I won an Eversharp fountain pen in a writing contest and earned P2 every time I was published in the Graphoc student literary page. At an alumni reunion five years ago, I was widely applauded when I said I was the first editor in chief of our student organ, the Mapazette. I was in UP when the Pacific war broke out and all of us ROTC students were required to report for eventual detail to fight in the front. On Christmas Day, however, we were disbanded and told to go home, leaving what could have been our last feast of lechon and other comestibles.

Like most young men then, I had my share of female friends and had a special girl friend named Chitang. She had a pretty face and a wonderful figure. One day we had a quarrel and I let her be known to her that I was leaving for Baguio, where my friend Fred was bound the next day. I asked him to send for me a telegram to Chitang reading "I miss you so much Oceans of love." I learned later that this led to Fred's arrest by the kempetai, who suspected he was talking of MacArthur's return. They

kept tapping his head with a steel ruler to force him to confess but finally let him go.

I studied law first in UP and later in MLQ, where I graduated in 1951. I had two sweethearts, Sally in the morning and Caring in the afternoon. When Caring noticed I was wearing Sally's school ring in the afternoon, she broke up with me and for several days attended classes without makeup. She recovered soon enough with Bart, whom she later married, and during our bar review gave me a pile of law books to read. What a sweet girl! I was disappointed later when I placed eighth in the bar exams, a justice of the Supreme Court having earlier congratulated my brother Virgilio that I was No. 2.

As a struggling young married lawyer, I started practicing and later teaching. I chose Political Law at the suggestion of Dr. Jose P. Laurel of the Lyceum, where I in time became dean. Before long, I was a bar reviewer on the subject in practically all the law schools in Metro Manila and was named chair of the Code Commission. When martial law was declared, somebody I did not know saved me from being picked up by the military for attacking Marcos in my lectures. Edsa I saw my appointment to the reorganized Supreme Court, where I stayed for eight and a half years until my retirement in 1994. Now I head another law college in Las Piñas and have been writing this column for the past 10 years. Last April I was conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, by the MLQ University.

It has been a satisfying life so far, but I am not yet ready to write *finis* to it. That is not for me to do but for Somebody Up There who, I think, is my friend. I will continue to live as I have done these 80 years, worshipping God, respecting my fellow human beings, loving nature, and protecting the little children who will inherit this earth. Then, *ad astra*.

Thanksgiving

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M.
Orbas, SVD

THE STORY is told that one day Jesus was strolling in heaven and He passed by two angels with lilies or telephones in front of them. The first angel had many calls, while the other angel had hardly any. The first angel was the angel assigned to the petition and complaint department, while the other was assigned to the thanksgiving department. Which angel do you call most of the time?

In today's Gospel (Lk. 17, 11-19), Jesus cured 10 lepers, but only one, a Samaritan, came back to give Him thanks. "Were not all 10 healed? Where are the other nine?" Most of us are like the other nine. Too preoccupied with our gifts and blessings, we forget the giver of those gifts and blessings. All too often we are so focused on what we want to have that we forget to thank God for what we already have and what we still have. We are like children looking for the distant stars even as we overlook the many starfishes right in front of us.

The Koreans celebrated their "chusok" last Sept. 28. It is their day of thanksgiving. On that day, families come together to give thanks and honor their parents and ancestors. It is not only a beautiful tradition, but a beautiful reminder as well that many of what we are and what we have now are the fruits of our parents' love and sacrifices. We all need to go back, to remember, and to give thanks. A person who does not go back is a proud person, and proud persons are often empty and lonely deep inside. A person who thinks he owes nothing to no one is terribly mistaken.

Learn from nature. My grandfather taught us that lizards go down to kiss the earth to give thanks to the Creator every evening. He also told us that the cows and the carabaos bend their knees and kneel before they sleep. And he told us that when the rooster crows in the morning, it is actually praying and praising God. If nature is grateful, why not us?

Rep. Gerry Cabochan related to me, during

our pilgrimage to Naju, Korea, his experience in 1961 with the power of prayer, when his mother was dying in the UST Hospital. In tears, he went to the dimly lit chapel and asked Our Lady of Fatima to let his mother, whom he loved very much, live. While praying, Mama Mary told him, "Go back to your mother. She will live." Sure enough, when he went back to the room, his mother was awake and her color had turned rosy, and she was asking for water. The story could have ended there, but it did not. It ended in the chapel, to where he went back to give thanks. He also promised to build a statue for the Blessed Mother. A 27-foot statue of Our Lady now stands in San Rafael, Bulacan because of one man who knew how to go back and give thanks.

I cannot help but give thanks whenever I encounter the Korean visionary Julia Kim. She is such a giving person. I always feel the unconditional love of the Blessed Mother through Julia. In spite of her physical sufferings, she is so generous to all the pilgrims. She spends time to be with, and to pray over, everyone. I have never seen anyone so generous with her time and with her smile and with her prayers, especially to priests; she gives so much love and encouragement. She is one person who, because of her many sufferings, could be living a bitter and an angry life, but instead, she lives a grateful, beautiful life. Is your life a life of thanksgiving, or is your life a life of "think giving," i.e. you always think of giving, you think before giving, and end up not giving?

A pilgrimage can help one see things in a clearer light from a distance. A pilgrim once confided to me how she realized her lack of

love for her children because she was so focused on her career. So busy in making a living, she forgot that what the children needed most from her was a lot of loving. So focused on imposing discipline, she forgot that more than an orderly home, her children needed a happy and a peaceful one. I admired her humility and honesty. She has written her children a letter, humbly asking for their forgiveness, along with the promise that she will be more gentle to them from now on. Parents, are you raising up grateful children? The only way you can do that is if you raise them up with much love, much patience and much giving. Love-giving is the first cousin of thanksgiving.

Did you hear the story about a husband who had a speech impediment? One day, he walked behind the wife, blindfolded her with his hands to surprise her and said "Guess who?" (Guess who?) The wife shouted back: "You are the only hare-lipped person in this house, how can I not guess who you are?" The point is that the husband was trying to give joy to her wife, while the wife simply killed the joy. Are you the "kill joy" in your house? Are people not happy anymore because of you? A joyful person is a grateful person. Don't forget that joy-giving is another cousin of thanksgiving.

Being here in Korea and seeing so much progress all around, I can't help but feel sad about our country, the Philippines. I hope, I pray, I know and I believe that someday we, too, as a people and as a nation, will rise above our poverty and afflictions. But this will happen only if we eradicate corruption in our government, and if we as a people go beyond our selfishness and really love our nation. But still, we give thanks, because we too have many other blessings as a people and as a nation, don't you think so? (You don't sound very convincing!) Let's shout one big YES and Amen to that.

A moment with the Lord:
 Lord, help me to live a life full of thanksgiving, love-giving and joy-giving. Amen.

Command responsibility in the AFP

A FEW weeks ago, while mulling over a number of subjects for my Sunday column, I realized that Gen. Narciso Abaya, the Armed Forces chief of staff, was approaching the compulsory retirement age of 56. I was aware that in the past, a number of AFP chiefs were allowed to serve in the position beyond the age limit but not exceeding a maximum period of three years. The late Gen. Arturo Enrile was the first beneficiary of this interpretation of the retirement law during the incumbency of former President Fidel V. Ramos. Subsequently, a number of AFP chiefs served beyond the age of 56.

On Oct. 29, Abaya, a West Pointer, Class of '71, would have served as AFP chief of staff for a year and a half—longer than the combined tenure of the last three of his predecessors in the office. Insofar as the AFP post is concerned, my position has always been to provide the individual chosen, a fixed term of at least three years. This would allow him time to institute needed reforms, to weed out some of the bad eggs, execute new policies and programs, and perhaps, more importantly, provide him with an opportunity to create and bring about a sense of hope, optimism and renewed confidence in the bright future of the organization.

With this in mind, I was going to propose an extension of Abaya's tour of duty to grant him an additional 18 months on the job. This is not to suggest that my views would have any effect on the decisions of Malacañang. It would merely be consistent with my stand on the issue of a fixed term of office for the AFP chief.

However, events of the past few days have caused me to rethink the wisdom of allowing Abaya's continued stay at the helm of the AFP. For the first time in the history of the organization, a member of the immediate staff of the AFP chief has been charged in the Office of the Ombudsman for "dishonesty, gross misconduct and conduct prejudicial to the interests of the service." There is no need to recite the crass details which led to the filing of charges against Maj. Gen. Car-

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan



los Garcia, PMA Class of '71, who served as AFP comptroller (J-6) under Abaya.

In the armed forces organization, the AFP comptroller is not some minor staff officer managing a unit payroll. The comptroller is one of the most important and vital members of the immediate "family" of the AFP chief. He is at the heart of the management of the financial resources of the armed forces. His relationship with the AFP chief, even more than that of other staff members, is one of close trust and confidence considering that it involves the utilization of AFP funds amounting to billions of pesos. If left to his own devices, with little or no supervision and inadequate checks and balances, he is in a position to divert funds for himself and his cohorts.

Garcia assumed the position of comptroller sometime in 2001 when Gen. Diomedio Villanueva was chief of staff. After Villanueva, Gen. Roy Cimatu took over as AFP chief for six months; followed by Gen. Benjamin Defensor, then Gen. Dionisio Santiago both of whom served for a few months. Abaya became AFP chief in April 2003.

During a period of roughly three years, Garcia served as comptroller for five AFP chiefs. This brings me to the so-called "revolving door" policy of President Macapagal-Arroyo in appointing the AFP chief of staff. When the AFP chief serves for only a few months, there is really nothing substantial that he can accomplish for the organization. Just as he is being sworn into office, he is already preparing for retirement. It is in this kind of environment that, perhaps, Garcia was emboldened to do what has brought about the charges he

now faces. He correctly figured out that with short-term AFP chiefs, they would have neither the time nor the inclination to institute meaningful reforms or to detect the work of scoundrels. And so the chances of his being caught were minimal.

In the Armed Forces, we have what is referred to as "command responsibility." As early as 1956, the subject of command responsibility was specifically contained in Circular Number 28, Armed Forces of the Philippines, and is expressed as follows: "In the military service, it is an axiom that the state of discipline is an inflexible index of the efficiency of its commander. The behavior of its members is nothing more than the reflection of the qualities of their leader and the kind of influence he has over them. This is so because, unlike other leaders, the military commander is vested with a high degree of authority over his men extending to matters normally considered individual and personal. Failing to exert a restraining influence over subordinates is a serious deficiency in a commander."

US Secretary of State Colin Powell, a former chair of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, once said: "Leadership is not rank, privilege, titles or money. It is responsibility—the ultimate responsibility."

Here in the Philippines, when a scandal breaks out, no one resigns as this is often taken as an admission of guilt. The standard line of most officials is: "I serve at the pleasure of the President." In a little more than two weeks, Abaya is set to retire from military service. Perhaps it is fortunate for him that retirement is just around the corner. Nevertheless, he cannot but accept responsibility for a scandal of this nature erupting on his watch and involving a member of his own staff. His legacy will be a weakened Armed Forces struggling with great difficulty to regain the trust and confidence of our people.

And these sentiments are expressed not in anger or rebuke but more in sadness and in sorrow.

Miracles

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David



stymied by the need to confine the "monumental" scope of the original movie to the intimate spaces of Huseung Batute, he assumed it would be a breeze to enlarge the concept to a bigger stage and venue. But he found in time that it wasn't so easy to abandon the intimacy created in the original production, and recreating that close connection between and among cast and audience became his "greatest concern."

Watching "Himala" with fresh eyes, I marveled at the way the musical captured the scope of the movie, the massing of the ensemble managing to echo the "cast of thousands" trudging through the dunes of Ilocos. And though we were craning our necks (we were seated on the second row), looking up as the main characters sang their solos near the stage's edge, we still felt pulled into their emotional territory. You can't get more intimate than that.

A large part of this is due to the musical score, which is raw and powerful, the singing parts a challenge to voice. There were times, indeed, when I worried how the actors could sing when seconds before they had huddled the most emotional and turbulent scenes.

FORTUNATELY, the actors prove up to the challenge.

May Bayot as Elsa is a pleasant surprise. She hardly resembles Ms. Aunok, being big-boned with strong and broad features. While Arc Guy infused Elsa with vulnerability and intensity, May gives Elsa power and depth, giving the impression that there are worlds of reasons and motivations behind her visions. She manages to convey pain and

desolation, anger and grief in a voice so powerful, it literally makes your skin crawl with astonishment and wonder.

Jai Sabas Aracama as Aling Saling, Elsa's mother; Cynthia Cullig-Guico as Chayong, Elsa's pious friend; and Isay Alvarez as Ninla, the town whore, provide excellent support, and it helps that their songs allow them to show off acting skill as well as vocal prowess.

A find, at least for me, is Johnson-Joven Uy as Orly, the cinematographer who serves as narrator and witness. It is his job to carry the story forward, as well as to balance his character's penchant to stand back from the action with the need to assert his presence onstage.

Finally, a word on the ensemble who are so much more than backdrop or ambient sound. Their blocking and movement, thanks to choreographer Jose Jay Cruz, establish mood and emotion, setting and tone.

PRODUCTION designer Gino Gonzales deserves notice as well, especially for the stage backdrop, which manages to recreate the arid setting of the Ilocos dunes as well as the stark setting of the village, allowing characters to pop in and out of the action.

In the end, after Elsa is shot, the villagers—who had just minutes before reacted in shocked disbelief when she tells them that "there are no miracles"—deliver the musical's central message. Why do we need miracles, they ask, when all around us are people who are themselves miracles, proving that it is the human heart where real miracles reside.

Meanwhile, here's a new storyline to ponder: A young visionary draws devotees to his rural barrio, raising enough money to build a hilltop chapel and shrine, as well as to fund a sex-change operation that will transform him from barrio boy to sultry singer. There's more than enough material hereabouts for the theater of the absurd.

"Himala The Musical" goes onstage tonight, and on Oct. 15 and 16, Nov. 5, 6, 7 at 8 p.m., with matinees at 3 p.m.

Will Gloria last?

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David



be the norm among her people, like GSIS president Winston Garcia. None of these things would perhaps generate the kind of controversy they have triggered if it were not for the hunger that stalks many of our people.

A television report on GMA-7 the other night portrayed the daily scramble of whole families for left-over food retrieved from the garbage bins of Metro Manila's shopping malls. Food that still smells fresh is consumed right then and there. The rest is scraped from plastic bags and re-cooked like pig's scrap for the next meal. Heart-breaking images like these acquire the starkness of a scandal when shown side by side—for example—reports of a general's wife who callously boasted of having anywhere between \$10,000 and \$20,000 when she goes shopping.

A situation like this is not politically sustainable. No government can demand sacrifices of its already starving citizens while a few powerful and wealthy families live as if they were God's chosen people. Something is bound to give. But sheer hunger will not spark a social revolution. For it is not hunger alone that grips the poor; they are also seized by a paralyzing helplessness that takes away the volatility from their anger.

That is why, in the final analysis, it is not the poor who pose a threat to Gloria, but rather the educated and the middle class who voted for her. They had set aside their deep doubts about her capacity to turn the country around, and supported her on the belief that an opposition win would spell a sure catastrophe. But now that she is safely President, they are not about to make it easy for her.

They may understand the historical roots of the fiscal crisis and the unfairness of blaming her for the cumulative sins of all past administrations. But they also know that critical times require extraordinary qualities. They expect a modern mindset and professionalism appropriate to a highly educated President. Above all, they demand leadership by example. Yet Gloria has been anything but exemplary. She conducts her office as if she has not stopped campaigning. One hundred days into her new term, there is still no visible shift in her presidential style, no clear program of government around which the nation could unite, and no inspiring Cabinet to which we could harness our collective hopes.

Will she last? Since the overthrow of Ferdinand Marcos by people power and military mutiny in 1986, we have not had a normal political life. All our presidents after Marcos faced serious political challenges either from people power or from the military, except Fidel Ramos, who was lucky to be favored by a world economy in the upswing. Today elections no longer guarantee security in public office. There is no reason to think GMA is exempt. The question is not whether she will last, but how long?

The persistence of people power is an indication that the traditional modes of political succession and governance of our society are no longer suitable for our times. Yet for all their dysfunctionality, their death has been repeatedly postponed by the kind of elections we hold. Our leaders are the same because the system we have hasn't changed. And I don't mean just the presidential system, but the whole obsolete social system that favors inherited wealth and power over personal effort and achievement; a system that dispenses the nation's resources in response to political imperatives rather than social needs, and rewards cunning rather than perseverance.

No president can last while this system endures.

Comments to davidquiran@yahoo.com

Chance for labor peace

WHAT is so bad about giving industrial peace a chance during these hard times that Kilusang Mayo Uno, Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino and leftist party-list representatives are strongly against it?

Last Oct. 4, the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines, Employers Confederation of the Philippines and Department of Labor and Employment signed, in the presence of President Macapagal-Arroyo, what may be described as a "no strike, no retrenchment" agreement.

Stripped of verbiage, the accord states that the labor unions under TUCP's umbrella will go on strike, work slowdown and other forms of concerted work stoppages only if all other means of settling labor disputes fail.

For its part, ECOP agreed to take all possible measures to preserve jobs and to refrain from dismissing employees, suspending operations or closing business unless as a means of last resort.

The DOLB promised to take the necessary steps to attend immediately to possible job displacements and maintain industrial peace. It will monitor the parties' compliance with the terms and conditions of their agreement.

Nowhere in the pact does it state that the labor unions TUCP represents have given up their most potent weapon vis-à-vis management—the right to go on strike or engage in concerted mass action. They will do that only if, figuratively speaking, pushed to the wall by the circumstances.

Neither did the companies affiliated with ECOP surrender their prerogative to terminate the services of their employees or cut back on their operations if they think the situation warrants it. They will resort to these measures only when totally unavoidable.

Competition

Yet, KMU and company insist that TUCP has sold out its members' right to strike and left them to the mercy of their employers. They also cast aspersions on the sincerity or motivation of the ECOP members into entering into the agreement.

The objections are not surprising. TUCP and KMU have been on opposite sides of the ideological fence for years. The former is considered a moderate in dealing with employers, while the latter is known for its aggressive tactics.

For KMU, TUCP is a "company union" whose leaders work for the interests of the employers rather than for the interests of the workers. TUCP, on the other hand, is critical about KMU's easy resort to strikes or other work disruptive tactics in collective bargaining negotiations with employers.

The two labor federations have divergent views even on the issue of wage increases. Although they use the same cost-of-living statistics, KMU's wage adjustment demand is always higher than that of TUCP's.

So intense has the rivalry been between the two organizations that they hold separate Labor Day celebrations. KMU's members commemorate the event in the streets, while those of TUCP hold their activity in more comfortable premises.

Even if KMU agreed in principle with the Industrial Peace objective of the tripartite agreement, it will be politically incorrect (from its point of view) to endorse the action of its most bitter rival in the labor front.

Obligation

Whether or not TUCP and ECOP can live up to the promises they made to each other remains to be seen. They entered into a "best efforts" agreement that relies on the good faith of the parties, rather than on sanctions or penalties, for its effectiveness.

But what's wrong with labor and management agreeing to exhaust all peaceful remedies first before either one of them takes a step that may disrupt the operation of the business or result in the loss of employment? Although labor and capital often have a love-hate relationship, they have symbiotic ties. One is useless without the other.

The agreement imposes a moral obligation on two important sectors of our economy to go the extra mile before they do anything that may adversely affect their respective interests and, in the long run, the country.

In these times when oil prices are going through the roof, domestic jobs are difficult to find and the national treasury is in bad shape, any effort that would keep the production lines in operation or put food on the table of the workers should be encouraged, not belittled.

The government can only do so much in ensuring harmony in the labor front. While it can order the reinstatement of dismissed employees or the return to work of striking employees, it's up to labor and management to decide whether they want to be productive together or be locked in a state of daily confrontation.

There is everything to gain and nothing to lose if the captains of industry and the leaders of one of the biggest labor organizations in the country decide to give industrial peace a chance during these critical times.

Opportunity

Considering the turbulent history of labor and capital, the plan looks ambitious. But that is no reason not to attempt it. The parties believe it is doable and are willing to give it a try. If only for that attitude, they should be given the benefit of the doubt.

They know from where they speak. They have a front seat view of the adverse effects of premature strikes or lockouts, or of dismissing an employee without due process. Both sides suffer if picket lines prevent entry or exit into company premises for flimsy reasons or if the company halts operations because of perceived insults to management.

A fiscal crisis looms ahead. If labor and capital do not cooperate with each other, they may find themselves swept aside in its wake. They have to make adjustments in the way they've handled their labor relations problems before to ensure their mutual survival.

Only time will tell if this cooperative effort will succeed or its critics will be proven right. If it fails, we shall be in no worse situation than before. In case the parties are able to live up to their commitments, then the country will reap its benefits.

In the meantime, will the cynics of industrial peace please stay out of the sidelines and give TUCP and ECOP a chance to accomplish their objective without being bothered by hecklers and kibitzers?

THEY SAID

Boring death

"We currency speculators are more likely to die of boredom."

—World-famous currency speculator George Soros on the difficulty of attacking Asian currencies

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Editor Juan V. Saravento Jr.

TALK of the TOWN

Food for all: Can we achieve it?

A starving man sees God only in a loaf of bread. —Mahatma Gandhi

First we eat then comes morality. —Bertolt Brecht

When millions of Filipinos go hungry, it doesn't come as a surprise that crime against property like cell phone robbery goes unabated, or that insurgency continues.

Hunger reached record levels last August in Metro Manila, the country's richest region, and in Mindanao, the country's food basket, according to the polling group Social Weather Stations.

The number of households in Metro Manila reporting that they went without food at least once over the past three months before the survey jumped to 15.7 percent, more than double the 7.3 percent a year ago. In Mindanao, the incidence of hunger rose to 23 percent,

the highest in the country and about four times the 5.3 percent in September 2003.

Massive election spending helped stave off hunger for many Filipinos. But when the cash and food from candidates ran out, the incidence of hunger nationwide rose to 15.1 percent from 13.0 percent in June.

Other factors like inflation, unemployment and war in many parts of the country have made food beyond the reach of many. The low priority given to food production (in contrast to exporting cash crops like pineapple and banana and importing food), has also contributed to the rising incidence of hunger.

There is enough food to go around, but people simply don't have the money to buy them. Clearly, the government's food program is not working for the poor. A food strategy that doesn't work is a threat to national security.

Hunger stalks the country's food basket

By Billy de la Rosa

Close to a fourth of households in Mindanao have been found to suffer from hunger. What might strike one as supreme irony is that the region with the most incidence of hunger is also the country's food basket.

The idea of Mindanao as the country's food basket was first hatched during the Ramos presidency. It was picked up and continued by succeeding presidents from the short-lived Estrada to the Arroyo administration.

During her recent visit to Davao City on the occasion of the 13th Mindanao Business Conference, President Macapagal-Arroyo said that in line with the government's food basket policy for Mindanao she wanted that most of the two million hectares targeted for agribusiness development under her 10-point legacy agenda should be in Mindanao. "Because Mindanao is the food basket of the country, I'd like to develop Mindanao as the agribusiness center of the country," she said.

Agribusiness

Thus, the food basket strategy for Mindanao has been translated into an agribusiness strategy, which in turn became an export-oriented agribusiness strategy. During the last Mindanao Food Congress, Presidential Assistant for Mindanao Jesus Dureza emphasized that Mindanao must look to foreign markets for its agricultural food products with east Asian (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) an immediate target. "There is a big market out there when we look at the 50 million BIMP-EAGAs," Dureza told the participants of the food congress.

He was referring to the huge market potential of Brunei, Indonesia and Malaysia, which, together with the Philippines comprise the east Asian growth area. His remarks were echoed by Charles Reibel, program chief of party of the Growth with Equity in

Mindanao (GEM) program, who went further by saying that an accelerated development for Mindanao should be promoted "to make it the food basket of Asia." GEM is funded by the United States Agency for International Development.

Mindanao as food basket for the country and food supplier of the world is not really a new concept. In the past, Mindanao was called the "rice bowl" of the country next to Central Luzon's "rice granary" title. As early as the 1930s, Mindanao exported pineapple to the US market through the American agribusiness giant Del Monte.

After the Second World War, coconut production grew in Mindanao in response to the demand for coconut oil in Europe and the US for the manufacture of cooking oil, margarine and other food products.

Pineapple

Today, a good portion of the country's agricultural food production comes from Mindanao. Coconut, banana and pineapple are among the country's most important agricultural exports. (See Table 1)

Sadly, the drive to make Mindanao the country's food basket has contributed to chronic hunger that is made worse by economic shocks brought about by natural or man-made disasters. Not too long ago, newspapers headlined deaths among the upland population in Mindanao as a result of hunger brought about by El Niño. Upland dwellers were reduced to eating poisonous wild yam to stave off hunger.

The periodic outbreak of war between the forces of the Moro liberation fronts and government forces has disrupted livelihoods and destroyed farms and means of production, affecting people's capacity to produce food and to feed themselves.

Because agricultural food production has been supplanted by agribusiness, the emphasis has shifted from meeting domestic needs to filling the demand of global markets. The total land area devoted to banana, pineapple, oil palm and other

high-value export crops has increased while that for food crops like rice has decreased.

As a result, rice self-sufficiency has dropped from 90 percent in 1995 to 66 percent in 2000. People in the past had been at least able to feed themselves with food that they themselves produced. With the advent of export crop production and plantation agriculture, people must rely on their incomes to obtain their food requirements.

Chronic poverty

The promise of prosperity from export crop production has not been realized for most Mindanaoans even as agribusiness capitalists and landed families have amassed untold wealth from agribusiness ventures in Mindanao. Half of all Mindanao provinces belong to the country's 25 poorest provinces. At least half of the population in most of these provinces lives below the poverty threshold. (See Table 2)

Invariably, poverty and hunger go hand in hand. In its report on the Millennium Development Goals, government admits that poverty is a major cause of food intake inadequacy, particularly in the rural areas. Official statistics indicate that per capita food supply outstrips food requirement by 45 percent. There is enough food to go around but people don't have money to buy enough to meet their needs. It is, therefore, not surprising that hunger is increasing in the poorest provinces.

Enough food, no money

Official statistics look even worse than the results of the Social Weather Stations hunger survey of August 2004. Three out of four of the poorest Mindanao provinces saw dramatic increases in the number of families that are unable to meet their food requirements between 1997 and 2000. In half of the cases, the increases exceeded 30 percent. (See Table 3)

War worsens hunger

The 1998 offensive waged by the Estrada administration against the Moro Islamic Liberation Front cost about P250 million in rice and corn production in Maguindanao and Lanao del Sur. The Department of Agriculture estimated that 12,000 hectares were rendered unproductive as a result of the fighting. The uncertain political outlook has prevented full rehabilitation of these farms.

Tens of thousands of families in the war-affected areas had been displaced by war. Many of them continue to live in evacuation centers and protection areas, only visiting their farms during the day. Economic life has been disrupted. It is not surprising, therefore, that the provinces worst affected by the conflict are also the poorest provinces in Mindanao. They have also the highest increases in the incidence of hunger.

The global economic shock brought about by the war in Iraq has exacerbated chronic hunger in Mindanao. Increases in the cost of fuel and petroleum-based products have increased agricultural production and transport cost. Fertilizer prices have increased 50 percent thus eating into farmers' incomes. Increases in farm gate prices of corn, for example, have been virtually offset by increases in production and transport costs. Small farmers are especially vulnerable.

Feed the hungry?

The government response to the hunger situation—distributing food coupons to the poor—is mitigation, not cure. Clearly, a more strategic approach is in order. The two most important are: 1) the hastening of the Mindanao peace process; and, 2) a re-examination of priorities in the government's Mindanao agricultural policies.

(Billy de la Rosa is executive director of the Alternate Forum for Research in Mindanao (AFRIM), a research and advocacy organization based in Davao City.)

Time to revisit food, agri and trade policies

By Jenina Joy Chavez,
Mary Ann Manahan
and Joseph Purugganan

Rather than confront the policy roots of the hunger situation, food coupons for the poor is all the government can think of in response. While admitting that the plan is just a palliative, it nevertheless belies a lack of understanding of the real problem and is indicative of how unprepared the government is in tackling the issue.

To seriously address the worsening problem of hunger and poverty, government should buckle down to the serious business of revising its food, agricultural and trade policies.

What survey doesn't say

The Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey reported an alarming 15.1 percent of households reporting hunger, or not having anything to eat at least once in the three months prior to the survey, with Mindanao reporting the highest incidence of 23 percent, followed by Metro Manila at 15.7 percent.

Agricultural production expanded by 6.61 percent in the first semester of 2004, with crops and fisheries leading the growth. So why are people hungry? The answer lies not in the availability of food, but rather in the people's capacity to access food.

Inflation is one culprit. Starting at a low rate of 3.4 percent in January, it reached 5.1 percent in June and peaked at 6.9 percent in September. Next is unemployment and underemployment which stood at 13.7 percent and 18.5 percent in April, respectively. While this has improved a bit in July (also owing to improved agricultural production), the fact remains that more than 4 million job seekers cannot find jobs, and 5.6 million of those who have jobs are not working full time or desire more work.

In short, people have become much poorer and less able to access food because of meager income. If the self-rated poverty reported by SWS stabilized at 53 percent (which is low compared with previous results that hit as high as 60 percent), the SWS was quick to note that this was because of belt tightening or the lowering of people's economic standards. All the more reason that the problem should be attended to immediately—people are bracing themselves for an

Table 1: Mindanao's share in agricultural output

Product	Percentage of national production
Rice	23
Corn	61
Coconut	83
Banana	76
Pineapple	92
Cacao	92
Coffee	75

SOURCE: BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

INFOGRAPHIC: PAGE DESIGN BY BILLY SAMBO

even lower quality of life.

Curse rather than cure

Liberalization has become the backbone not just of our food and agriculture policies but of development policy as a whole. The Philippines has since 1981 been pursuing a comprehensive and radical program of trade liberalization.

Through the Tariff Reform Programs I to IV, we have unilaterally reduced nominal tariff rates in the country from 23.5 percent in 1993 to 7.71 percent in 2001. Under the common effective preferential tariff scheme, we reduced to zero the tariff rates of around 60 percent of all our products in the inclusion list for the Asian Free Trade Area.

We committed to bind all our agriculture products to the agreement on agriculture under the World Trade Organization (WTO) and to further reduce agricultural tariffs in continuing trade negotiations.

What has this policy achieved so far? While they will always present results in a positive way, even research by mainstream economists cannot deny the negative impact of liberalization.

One such research pronounces that "the reduction in tariff rates between 1994 and 2000 is generally poverty-reducing" but such decline varies across regions, where regions with lowest initial poverty enjoy the bigger poverty reduction compared to those already much poorer to begin with. Further "(a)griculture contracts, while agriculture factor prices decline. Overall income inequality worsens as a result."

Straight out of the horse's mouth—trade liberalization has been hurting agriculture and the already poor population. Statistics bears this out. Agricultural employment declined from 11.29 million jobs in 1994 to 11.22 in 2003 despite our government's insistence that joining the WTO would create half a million jobs annually. Real wages continue to fall, the highest fall (including even non-agricultural wages) being experienced in Muslim Mindanao.

Precarious food access

While the hunger we face now may be borne out of income declines, unless government seriously reorients its food policy we might as well see real supply crunch in the future, aggravating increasing prices.

The liberal attitude toward food policy produced a new definition of food security that emphasizes availability and affordability rather than prioritizing agricultural production. Importation has become a strategy equal

to production and no longer just a policy tool to address production shortfalls. As a result, the Philippines has not graduated from being a net food importer.

Our food import bill has been increasing over the last 10 years, from \$714 million in 1993 to \$2.38 billion in 2003. Yet even the supposed advantage of a liberalized trade regime on consumer prices remains elusive for Filipinos. Food inflation continues to outstrip overall inflation.

Thirty-nine percent of the country's labor force depends on agriculture (only two-third of whom are employed), and they have to compete for the shrinking share (to gross domestic product) of the sector from 22 percent in 1993 to less than 15 percent in 2003. Moreover, they have to contend with the continued encroachment of industry and speculative ventures into productive land, the continued lack of incentive and support to agricultural production, and steep competition from imports.

Low priority

The low priority given to food production is worrisome, given that even with trade, global food production has been unable to catch up with demand. Food harvest is expected to fall short of meeting consumption for the fifth consecutive year in 2004, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization.

This reality should be considered seriously by government, to at least temper the rabid optimism that trade liberalization alone will solve our food security concerns. Nor will intensified agriculture and use of GMOs (genetically modified organisms) do the trick without first addressing food safety, biodiversity and production viability.

The SWS survey highlights the special case of Mindanao, a region blessed with vast food and agricultural resources.

Gloomy as it may seem, Mindanao illustrates the worst of our government's blind adherence to liberalization and US-dependent security policies. And try as the government might to deflect the focus from Mindanao, it will keep coming back to it. After all, a country is only as good as its worst region.

(The authors are from Focus on the Global South-Philippines, an organization doing research, analysis and advocacy on economic and security issues, and members of the Stop the New Round!, a coalition campaigning against a new round of trade liberalization under the WTO. The full paper can be accessed at www.focusweb.org.)

Table 2: Food situation in poorest Mindanao provinces

Province	Incidence in 1997	Incidence in 2000
Sulu	(1.1)	21.4
Tawi-Tawi	61.0	61.0
Maguindanao	87.2	87.2
Lanao del Sur	14.3	14.3
Sultan Kudarat	82.8	82.8
Cotabato	19.6	19.6
Lanao del Norte	20.0	20.0
Agusan del Sur	51.9	51.9
Sarangani	98.8	98.8
Zamboanga del Norte	33.7	33.7
Misamis Occidental	(3.8)	33.7
North Cotabato	(14.0)	33.7

SOURCE: NATIONAL STATISTICS COORDINATING BOARD

Voices from a soup kitchen in Quiapo

When my mother died in 1989 I left Marikina to look for a job in Manila, but I couldn't find one. I have been sleeping in the streets since then. To earn money, I collect and sell used mineral water bottles. I cannot do laundry anymore because I'm old.

I'd like to be a vendor selling candies and biscuits. The problem is I don't have capital. I learned about the feeding center (Lugawan ni San Jose sa Quiapo, Divine Mercy project) when it was still located in Binondo. When it moved to Quiapo, we also relocated. We eat our break-

fast, lunch and dinner here. —Victoria Sanchez, 54

I have been in Manila for two months. I left my wife and child in Tacloban in Leyte to find a job in the city but I can't find any. Living in Manila is so hard. I want to go home, but I don't have enough fare for the trip. Every day I collect and sell used plastic cups and mineral water bottles so I can earn some money. I get P100 for 10 plastic cups. —Roberto Llanos, 38

My family and I used to rent an apartment in Muñoz, Project 8 in Quezon City but my husband got hooked on shabu and had a micro-

tail problem. I have four children, a 12-year old, a 6-year old, a 4-year old and a 2-year old. We earn some money through begging. When we don't earn enough from begging we eat at the feeding center. —Evelyn de la Peña, 34

I grew up in Quiapo, sleeping in the streets. My parents left me when I was seven years old. Sometimes, I do odd jobs to earn. At night I work as a jeepney barker. But still, I don't earn enough so I eat my meals at the feeding center. —Carlo del Rosario, 17 (Interview by Tere Z. Cruz)

Table 2: Mindanao provinces belonging to 25 poorest

Province	Poverty incidence
Sulu	63.02 %
Tawi-Tawi	58.5 %
Maguindanao	55.1 %
Lanao del Sur	55.0 %
Sultan Kudarat	54.3 %
Cotabato	54.3 %
Lanao del Norte	50.6 %
Agusan del Sur	50.2 %
Sarangani	48.0 %
Zamboanga del Norte	45.6 %
Misamis Occidental	43.4 %
North Cotabato	42.9 %

SOURCE: NATIONAL STATISTICS COORDINATING BOARD

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Pampanga exec says DENR owes province P100M

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—The Natural Resources Development Corp. owes the Pampanga provincial government some P100 million in shares from quarry taxes between 1999 and 2001, according to a provincial official.

Provincial administrator Fidel Arcenas revealed this as he parried a proposal to investigate the revenues that the provincial government had collected since it reassumed control of the quarry industry in 2002.

"Where's the NRDC money? It should be the one that should be investigated, not the capitol," Arcenas said on "Talking Points," a show on cable television Infomax Channel 8 here on Wednesday night.

Pampanga Rep. Reynaldo Aquino, who was a guest in the show, had sought a congressional inquiry on the income-generating prospects of the industry as a possible source of funds for local development projects amid the fiscal crisis.

Another guest, Vice Gov. Joseiller Guiao, said the provincial board would do a separate investigation when the 100-day period that Gov. Mark Lapid asked from the board to improve quarry collections expires.

No debt

But an official of NRDC, an agency of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, said the agency does not owe that amount to the provincial government.

Lawyer Jesus Lagrosa, NRDC legal division chief, said the balance, as of July, remained at P50,789. A check for that amount was issued but this was not claimed and the check went stale, he said.

Through the Inquirer's request, Lagrosa reported these revenues based on the agency's audited accounting books: February to December 1999, P144.62 million; 2000, P132.6 million; and January to Dec. 15, 2001, P104.76 million.

Out of these amounts, these were the shares that the provincial government received: 1999, P11.56 million; 2000, P10.61 million; and 2001 P8.35 million.

"Based on our records, all the shares of Pampanga have already been given," Lagrosa said in a telephone interview.

Former provincial administrator Benalfre Galang filed a claim suit in 2002. Arcenas said he was still checking with provincial lawyer Regina Galang-Guarin on the status of the case filed at the regional trial court.

Guiao said it was also important to monitor the daily collections. He assailed the inefficient system, saying that as of September, provincial treasurer Vergel Yabut had no report of daily collections for the month.

Unrealistic figures

In contrast, the NRDC prepared daily collection reports, Guiao said.

With P6.4 million in revenues between January and August, only 300 trucks hauled out sand daily from Pampanga, he said.

The figure, he said, was "not realistic." People who have been in the business estimated an average of 3,000 trucks daily, which could possibly earn for Pampanga about P27 million monthly.

Arcenas admitted that the monitoring system needed to be improved, confirming irregularities on the use of fake or recycled receipts. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Suspect in TV anchor's slaying gives up

By Nestor Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—The principal suspect in the killing of television anchor Christopher Misajon surrendered on Friday.

Roseli Gonzales, 24, sought the help of reporters of dyOK Aksyon Radyo in Iloilo who turned him over to Justice Secretary Raul Gonzales and the police.

Gonzales, however, denied that he was among those who robbed and killed Misajon on Sept. 23 in Barangay San Rafael in Mandurriao District in this city.

He said he was in his house in Barangay Aguilana in Passi City, 59 km north of Iloilo City, during the time Misajon and his companion, Ma. Teresa Bacabac, were attacked. He told reporters he came out to clear his name.

Gonzales was earlier identified by his cousin Jessie Jamili as among the three men with guns who came to his house before Misajon was killed. Jamili said Gonzales asked him to come with them for a "mission" but he declined.

Jamili's live-in partner Aiza Garbanzos said Gonzales and the two other men came again after she heard a gunshot.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2005-2006

High School Level

Application for the USTEF-High School level for incoming first year high school students will start on October 01, 2004 and end on February 12, 2005. Grade 6 pupils who wish to apply may submit the following requirements at the lobby of Thomas Aquinas Research Complex

1. Accomplished application and grades form (you may download this form from the internet at www.ust.edu.ph)
2. Clear photocopy of birth and baptismal certificate;
3. Two (2) 2x2 identical pictures with printed name and signature at the back;
4. Application fee of PhP500.00 (non-refundable)

Examination is set on February 13, 2005 at 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 n.n. & 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

COLLEGIATE LEVEL

SCHEDULE OF APPLICATIONS AND EXAMINATIONS

Applications

July 01, 2004 to November 26, 2004
Thomas Aquinas Research Complex
Mondays to Saturdays
08:30 to 11:30 AM, 01:30 to 04:30 PM
(UST Application and Grades Form may be downloaded from the UST Website: www.ust.edu.ph and may be reproduced)

Examinations

MANILA
Sept. 19, Oct 24 and Nov. 28, 2004
Sundays - 08:00 to 11:30 AM/
01:00 to 04:30 PM
PROVINCIAL
Oct. 09 and 16/Nov. 06, 13, 14, 20 & 21 2004
Saturdays - 08:00 to 11:30 AM

DEGREE PROGRAMS

College of Architecture (COE)
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College of Commerce and Accountancy** (Accountancy (COD), Business Administration (COD), Economics, Entrepreneurship)
College of Education** (Elementary Education, Secondary Education, Food Technology, Hotel and Restaurant Management, Nutrition and Dietetics, Tourism, Master of Arts in Teaching Social Science [5-year program], Teacher's Certificate Program)
Faculty of Engineering* (Electronic and Communications Engineering (COE), Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Industrial Engineering (all five programs are on COD status), Information Management, Information Technology, Computer Science)

College of Fine Arts and Design (Advertising, Industrial Design, Interior Design, Painting)
Conservatory of Music (COE)
College of Nursing** (COE)
Faculty of Pharmacy** (Biochemistry Medical Technology** Pharmacy***)
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PROVINCIAL TESTING SCHEDULE

Date	Provincial Testing Center
Oct. 09, 2004	Ateneo de Zamboanga, Zamboanga City
	St. Paul College, Vigan
Oct. 16, 2004	T. del Rosario College, Balanga, Bataan
Nov. 06, 2004	Holy Spirit Academy, Laoag, Ilocos Norte
	Aquinas University, Legaspi City
	St. Paul University, Tuguegarao City
Nov. 8-12, 2004	UAE, Qatar and Saudi Arabia
Nov. 13, 2004	St. Scholastica's Academy, Bacolod City
	Holy Trinity College, Palawan
	University of La Salette, Santiago City
	Don Bosco Technical Institute, Tarlac
Nov. 14, 2004	San Pedro College, Davao City
Nov. 20, 2004	Angelicum School, Iloilo City
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Mayor turns in more guns after raid on his home

BANGUED, Abra—Mayor Edwin Crisologo of Tineg town surrendered four firearms to the police, two days after unlicensed guns were recovered from his house in Barangay Ubbog here.

Senior Supt. Rodolfo Ebarido, acting Abra police director, said Crisologo surrendered an M 16 rifle, a Garand rifle, an M-14 rifle and a "pistolized" shotgun on Saturday.

Crisologo was charged with illegal possession of firearms and harboring a fugitive. He was released on bail.

A police source also told the INQUIRER that a bag containing about P1.2 million was found during the search in Crisologo's house. Crisologo, however, denied the report.

Seized during the raid in Crisologo's house were five .38 cal. pistols, bulletproof vests and assorted bullets.

The search was part of the directive of Philippine National Police chief Director General

Edgardo Aglipay to the Cordillera police to dismantle private armed groups (PAGs) and recover loose guns in Abra.

On Oct. 5, Gov. Vicente Valera and 11 Abra mayors surrendered 29 firearms to police officials to honor their commitment to ensure peace and order in the province.

Ebarido said he would ask PNP officials to assign an additional 100 PNP Special Action Force members to reinforce the SAF team that replaced local policemen and tasked with dismantling the PAGs.

Aglipay earlier ordered the retraining of policemen here after they were accused of favoring local politicians and partiality in implementing the law.

Chief Supt. Rowland Albano, Cordillera police director, in his visit here last Tuesday said the local policemen would be retrained. Artha Kira Paredes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon
Desk

CITY OF SAN PERNANDO—Because of the hard times, frogs have ceased becoming just rare culinary dishes.

Carpenter Fernan Caculao and his family do not miss out on protein any time of the week, even though he earns so little from occasional jobs.

On the many days when prices of pork and chicken meat become more unaffordable, Caculao said frog meat is the best alternative.

He said he catches frog thrice a week in the swampy portions of Barangay San Felipe here.

"When there is no viand to prepare, I go out and put my bamboo to good use," he said as he watched the frog cooking competition in the city.

The event was one of the highlights of the second annual



PAMPANGA folk put bamboo to good use—catching frogs for food. The villagers turned out for the province's second annual Frog Festival, held in honor of the amphibian that supplies poor folk with protein as an alternative to costlier sources of meat.

PDI CENTRAL LUZON DESK

Kalidad na langhap ng Bayan!



Dahil sa inyong pagtangkilik ay nakamit namin ang tagumpay. Ito ay magsusilbing inspirasyon namin upang lalo pang paraasin ang antas ng paggawa at kalidad ng aming mga produkto.

Hangad din naming maging modelo sa larangan ng paggawa ng karne norte na katanggap-tanggap, at sarap ng guisadong hanap ng konsyumer.

Salamat po.



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Frog Festival in this city known for making giant lanterns.

"Makasap sa kekaming kalulu (They're helpful to us who are poor)," he said, referring to the amphibians.

Caculao, who takes various odd jobs, said he learned frog catching (*mapiaduas*) from his grandfather. Back then, farmers relied on frog meat as an occasional protein source.

In San Felipe, many poor families are able to tide the lean days by replacing pork, chicken and fish with frog meat.

Clean, too

"Manyaman la pu ampong malinis (They're delicious and they're clean, too)," Caculao said of the native frogs that feed on smaller insects and grass.

His wife prepares it dry, adobo-style with lots of soy sauce, garlic and onions.

Pet Jorolan said her restaurant here, the Everybody's Cafe, serves exotic frog dishes daily because these are still popular among the oldest of her avid customers.

The best sellers, Jorolan said, are *betute* (frogs stuffed with chopped frog meat), *adobo* and *tinola*.

Farmers in Magalang and Arayat towns of Pampanga sell dressed frogs early in the day. Jorolan prefers the native ones because of their tastier meat.

She said the older customers, who were nurtured by her late parents Benito and Carmen Santos since they ran the restaurant in 1946, keep coming back because she has stuck to the old recipes and does not scrimp on ingredients.

But the good thing about frogs is that they come many after every calamity like flood, she said.

Better times

"When old folks say 'Manalawak na reng tugak' (the frogs are croaking in chorus), the times are going to be better because there's going to be more food," she said.

Beyond food, the skin of frogs can also be turned into leather. In her case, she has yet to tap a technology to be able to do that.

"There's really money in frogs," Jorolan said.

Young cooks in Pampanga's culinary schools have been developing various ways to prepare frog meat.

In last Friday's competition, cooks from the University of the Assumption bagged all the awards for best traditional recipe, best new recipe and best presentation.

Budding chefs prepared *teriyaki toron*, spicy baked frogs in creamy mango sauce with salsa, *ginataang gulaka*, *pocherong palaka* and stuffed frog with Szechuan sauce.

Tanong ng Bayan

Text ang inyong "fearless view" sa 29-0. Pilitin namin ang pinakamagaling na sagot. Ang premyo linggo-linggo: Isang 21" color TV set!

Hype: INQTV - ang inyong sagot, - buong pangalan, - saludah o probinsya, - tapos (padala sa 29-0). Cut-off time: WEDNESDAY, 6 PM. Winner will be identified during the InqTV program: Thursday, 10:30pm, on ABC.

text 2910 **Winston sa GSIS, atbp. Oras na bang bumaba?**

Narito ang list sa mga sagot ninyo: Text na!

*Oras na bumaba c/wins2n at iba pa la namang saba sa bayan, sa halip na aseta cla ng gubyrmo bababisa cla *

Jessie Yula, Silay City, Negros Occ.
"yes, gsis cannot and should not be run by a UPler"
Bong Angeles, Quezon City

Man survives as lightning strikes umbrella he's holding on beach

By Rolando O. Borrinaga
PDI Visayas Bureau

PALO, Leyte—This is one lucky man. Lightning struck the umbrella he was holding and he survived to tell his tale. Mario Porle, 22, left his hometown

of Sogay Zamboanga Sibugay late last month to complete unfinished academic requirements at the School of Health Sciences, University of the Philippines Manila, in Palo, Leyte, after which he would review for the nursing licensure examination in December.

But his hopes and dreams were nearly burnt, literally, last Oct. 3. A lightning bolt struck the umbrella that Mario was holding on the beach, and only pure luck and a quick reflex saved him from certain death by electrocution.



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INQUIRER *Mindanao*

Editor Jun Sandayral
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Tabang Mindanaw builds roads to peace

By Nash B. Maulana
Maguindanao

THE NOBLE peace-makers' mission may soon end as the journey to peace begins for inhabitants of 36 war-torn villages in three Central Mindanao provinces.

But Tabang Mindanaw (TM), a private task force composed of several organizations including the INQUIRER, has already planted the seeds of peace deep into the heart of communities of mixed faiths and ethnic origins. Its members have touched lives and have worked hard to heal the wounds of war, perceived to be rooted in or worsening because of differences in religious beliefs.

The TM has documented post-rehabilitation situations in the villages whose Christian, Muslim and tribal residents now enjoy social and religious harmony.

In fact, soaps made of organic herbs, plants and fruits in the erstwhile war-torn communities may soon be bought from known department stores—courtesy of corporate partners in relief and rehabilitation efforts.

In October last year, more than 100 residents took the path connecting the "peace sanctuaries" in a symbolic journey for peace—from Sitio Dunguan, Ugaungan in Carmen town, and Barangay

Nalapaan in Pikit, North Cotabato; Barangay Inogug in Pagaiungan to Sapad in Matanog, Maguindanao; all the way to Kapatagan in Lanao del Sur.

When interviewed by members of the task force, the residents declared Muslims were safe in predominantly Christian areas, and vice versa. Local political leaders also attested to this.

Carmen Vice Mayor Joey Orendain said Fr. Ben Torretto of the Cotabato Archdiocese proved him wrong for being cynical when efforts to restore mutual trust among Muslims and Christians in his municipality were first brought up.

"I was wrong," Orendain publicly admitted in Filipino.

The archdiocese, under Bishop Orlando Quevedo, is credited for the formation of the TM task force in 1998 and 2000, along with the Kidapawan diocese. Member-organizations were composed of "tri-people" (Christian, Muslim and indigenous peoples) communities of Maguindanao, North Cotabato and Lanao del Sur.

In the TM task force are representatives of the Assis Foundation, Ayala Foundation, AY Foundation, Corporate Network for Disaster and Response, GMA-7 Foundation, ABS-CBN Foundation, the Office of Mrs. Margie Moran Florendo, the Philippine Daily Inquirer, and the Piso for Unity, Peace and Progress Foundation.



TABANG Mindanaw members interact with tribal chieftains and Muslim and Christian leaders to hear their stories, issues, concerns and how to build a lasting peace within their community. (DIONISIO JAY SANTOS)

Rough road

Things did not change overnight, even with the group's orderly relief operations and rehabilitation program. The road to peace was, in fact, rough, according to Benjamin Abadiano of the Assis Foundation.

Volunteer workers said the task force's Integrated Return and Re-

habilitation Program (IRRP) had revived the Duyog Ramadhan, an interfaith dialogue project initiated in the early 1980s by the Archdiocese of Cotabato, and gained support from popular artists like folk singers Asin and Joey Ayala.

Bacon Macaraya of the Ranao Center for Peace and Development said continuing dialogues with

peace negotiators down to the field officers of both the military and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front paid off in building peace sanctuaries in Lanao del Sur.

Col. Isagani Cachuela, head of the Army's 604th Infantry Brigade in Carmen, said during a recent meeting of peace workers in Cotabato City that the military

was working hard for peace and its presence in any community was only called for "by the necessity of maintaining and restoring peace and order, no less."

He cited the redeployment of marines from the Liguasan Marsh as a sign of restored peace in the area, and to Lanao del Sur in order to help maintain peace and order there.

The task force has forged and sustained seven written and informal peace agreements among 47 "tri-people" communities, the MILF and AFP. It has also exchanged peace communications with the Office of the President, Department of National Defense, AFP, MILF and local government units.

Peace verses

Abadiano, who heads the TM-IRRP technical team, said Muslim religious leaders in the peace communities had agreed to unify Islamic preaching on the subject of peace in Muslim congregational prayers and on Ramadhan evening prayers (taraw) as part of the Duyog Ramadhan activities.

A task force member said the Duyog Ramadhan was a learning experience because it taught Christians and Muslims more about peace related verses in the Koran, of which only one was previously advocated and cited even by Muslim peace workers.

The TM reported that 54 "tri-people" communities had been organized and assisted.

A place where goodness dwells

By Juan Alberto E. Dugan
Digos City

PRAY and Work. A motto for a religious order in Digos City.

The St. Benedict's Monastery of Digos was founded in 1983 following several requests from the bishop of Digos who wanted a retreat house for the priests and sisters of the diocese.

Unlike some monasteries, the Benedictines of Digos combine the contemplative way of life with

missionary work.

Fr. Patrick Mariano, one of the pioneering Filipino monks of the community, said they harmonized a contemplative way of life with missionary work by praying five times a day and doing work in between.

The monks begin their day with lauds (morning prayer) at 5 a.m., followed by a Mass. After breakfast, they work from 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. They have their midday prayer at 11:30. After lunch, an hour-long siesta, then work again from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

At 5:30 p.m., the monks have their meditation followed by vespers (evening prayer). After dinner, they have a 30-minute recreation.

Afterwards, they have their compline (night prayer), then bedtime.

The monks go out when their ministry calls for it or when they do some important business.

Presently, the community is composed of two German priests, six Filipino priests, three final-professed brothers and 15 novices (under formation).

The apostolate

The monks do their apostolate by rendering services to different parishes, presiding over the Holy Eucharist and administering other sacraments.

The monastery's retreat house accommodates various groups, mostly graduating high school and college students from differ-

ent schools in Davao del Sur.

The monks have also built a clinic that gives free medicine and treatment to the sick. With the help of volunteer doctors and nurses, almost 800 persons are served every month.

A scholarship program also helps boys and girls from poor families. The monastery has 110 scholars so far.

The monks rely on their own livelihood projects to sustain themselves. They have a stable for 50 cows which produce around 150 liters of milk everyday.

Bro. Bernard Pasacas, who manages the Diocesan Agricultural Apostolate Program or DAAP farm, is in charge of raising pigs and goats. The monks also grow fruits and orchids, and process copra.

Asked what makes him active in his calling, Huber simply answered, "By the grace of God." He said the greatest challenge for a monk is to genuinely follow Christ as a religious or as a priest.

Purpose

Manano believes that he has discovered the purpose of his life in the monastery.

"I have found the meaning of my life here (monastery). Co-journeying with other people, being touched by their lives and listening to their experiences gives me ample time to look into my own struggles and my personal reflection about my life," he said.

For those young men out there who feel that they have a calling to a monastic way of life, Fr. Felix Huber, one of the founders, advises them to "live a true Christian life and pray for understanding of the will of God in his life. Only if God calls can he be able to fulfill his mission."

For details, interested readers may write the St. Benedict's Monastery, Digos City, Davao del Sur or call (082) 5537009. The writer is a third year Mass Communication student at the Ateneo de Davao University.



THE PATHWAY to the retreat house

JUAN ALBERTO DUGAN

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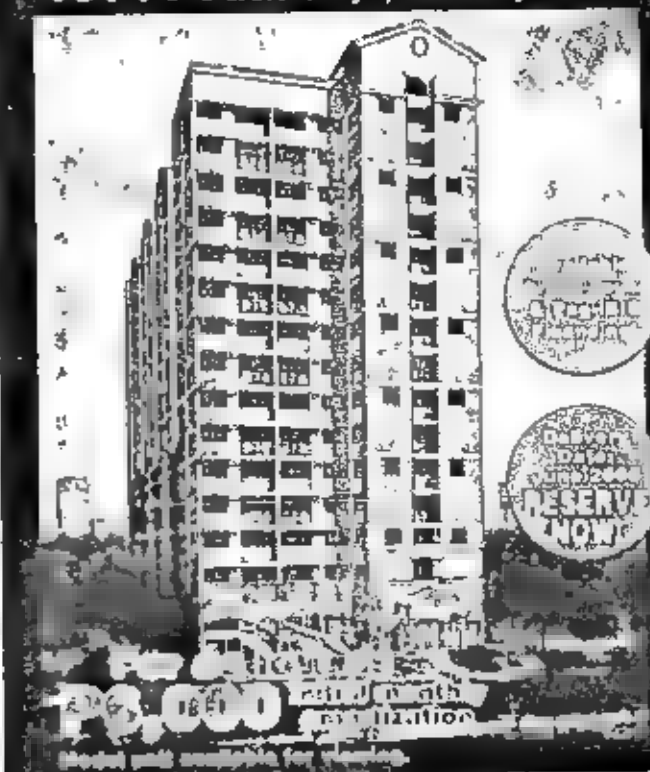
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4 other orphans mourn loss of Rio in their lives

From page A1

young children in Taloc were badly in need of a home. Their mother, Susana, had died of cancer and their father, Norberto, a fisherman, was afflicted with tuberculosis.

Because the children had nine other siblings and hardly any food on the table, they were forced to beg.

Rio traveled to Taloc, found the four little girls and brought them home to the Cojuangcos' Hacienda Baibina in Pontevedra. She asked her mother-in-law, Gretchen Cojuangco, if the orphanage of which the latter was among the benefactors could take them in.

The children were malnourished and had worms and many ailments, recalled Sister Reynalda Zapata, one of the Franciscan nuns running Casa de la Providencia.

The nun said Rio often came to the orphanage to visit the four children. She wanted to care for them but soon she had to return to the United States for treatment.

"She brought sunshine with her," Sister Reynalda said. "Seeing her bravely carry on despite her illness gave courage to people like us to carry on with our work at the orphanage despite the odds."

With Rio gone, her mother-in-law has taken over, down to giving the children haircuts. "She left me four other orphans," Gretchen Cojuangco said.

Power

Rio had three children of her own. Al, 22, by singer Hajji Alejandro, and Claudia, 9, and Jaime, 7, by her husband Charlie



HOLDING on to the urn containing his wife's ashes, Rep. Charlie Cojuangco arrives at the Santuario de San Antonio church in Forbes Park from San Francisco on Saturday.

Cojuangco, representative of the fourth district of Negros Occidental.

The young Pagarita children were not the only ones who benefited from Rio's kindness, said Elizabeth Tejeda, secretary of the Pontevedra Organization of Women with Equal Rights (or Power).

Tejeda said it was Rio who organized Power to give assistance, among other things, to women who were battered and sick, or who needed a means of livelihood.

Tejeda said that when Rio was vice mayor of Pontevedra in 1998-2001, she turned over her monthly

salary of P12,000 to Pilar Villanueva, a public school teacher in Barangay Antipolo, who was suffering from breast cancer.

The teacher did not live but Rio was there to lighten her and her family's load when they most needed it, Tejeda said.

Pontevedra Mayor Jose Benito Alonso said Rio's bubbly personality and kindness so endeared her to the townsfolk that when news of her death reached them, many wept.

"We had mixed emotions," he said. "We were sad that she was gone, but glad that she was no longer suffering."



"ORPHANED" with Rio gone are sisters Janine and Gemma, who are deaf and dumb, and Lea, who is nearly blind. With another sister Nancy, the children are now in the care of Casa de la Providencia, an orphanage run by the Franciscan nuns.

ANDY ADARBEZ/POWERS BUREAU

When Rio's ashes arrive in Pontevedra on Tuesday, school children will line the streets to welcome her to the town she adopted as her own and served well, Alonso said.

Praise

Songs of praise by Don Moen and Gary Valenciano are expected to be played at the wake for Rio at the Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park, Makati City.

Ten dozen red roses, representing her 10-year marriage to Charlie Cojuangco, are expected to adorn the church.

According to the schedule, Rio's

ashes will be brought tomorrow at 5 p.m. to the Christ Christian Fellowship Church in Pasig City, the church she attended.

Bebot Guevarra, caretaker of the St. Michael the Archangel Church in Pontevedra, said preparations were underway for the public wake for Rio on Tuesday.

Guevarra said Rio did not know him but he was gladly seeing to the preparations because she did many good things for the people of Pontevedra.

"She helped the sick and the needy. She helped a lot of people," he said.

Church secretary Leonila Gar-

garita said Rio was friendly and approachable.

"Even if she had cancer herself, she helped other cancer patients," Gargarita said.

After a public Mass on Thursday, the Cojuangco family is expected to hold a private funeral service at the Spanish-style chapel in the sprawling gardens of Hacienda Baibina.

The ivy-covered chapel, located about 100 meters from the Cojuangco home, was built by tycoon Eduardo Cojuangco for his wife Gretchen as a silver anniversary present.

It can seat about 100 people.

Exposing corruption hazardous to soldiers' careers

From page A1

from their "corrupt bosses," according to a senior colonel in the Army.

The colonel said connivance between senior and junior officers was "the first critical stage of corruption."

"When this happens, officers will protect each other, gain together, tolerate each other and help each other in all endeavors," he said.

The colonel also said any complaint about corruption would be ignored because "everybody is involved."

Complaints gather dust

Another colonel, this time with the Marines, cited the case of Col. George Rabusa, a former budget officer at the AFP comptroller's office who was investigated for an estimated P50 million in alleged ill-gotten wealth.

As early as 2002, a complaint against Rabusa was filed before the Office of Ethical Standards and Public Accountability, the Office of the Inspector General, the office of the Commanding General of the Philippine Army and the Office of the Chief of Staff of the AFP.

But the complaints were left to gather dust while Rabusa was assigned to lead a battalion in the Visayas.

The Marine colonel said the AFP leadership did not want to look into Rabusa's case because doing so would "open a Pandora's box."

Taboo broken

With Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia, the former AFP comptroller, and other ranking military officers now in the hot seat, the people behind the government's lifestyle check program believe the taboo on investigating the AFP has finally been broken.

An official at the Office of the Ombudsman recalled that when news of the alleged scam involving the AFP's Retirement and Separation Benefits System broke more than five years ago, it was greeted by rumors of a coup.

"It was as if they were telling us to stay clear of the issue involving top military officials. It's like they were above suspicion and above the law," said the source, who asked not to be named.

"What's happening in the military now is an indication that President Macapagal-Arroyo's lifestyle check program has succeeded in breaking barriers," the source added.

The scam involved the alleged P167,626,423 overprice in the purchase of lots by the AFP-RSBS.

Former Brig. Gen. Jose Ramiscal and other officials entrusted to safeguard the hard-earned money of ordinary soldiers were charged with graft before the Sandiganbayan.

Commissioner Teresita Baltazar of the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission (PAGC) said the military investigations indicated that people were beginning to realize that no one in the government was exempt from the lifestyle check.

'Gratitude money'

"There's a turning point when people start to trust that we are serious in fighting graft and corruption," she told the INQUIRER in an interview Friday.

Baltazar said that before Ms Arroyo ordered the lifestyle check last year, many people had become "jaded morally," nurturing the idea that it was not graft when they only received, and not demanded, money from parties dealing with the government.

"This twisted mentality must change," she said, noting the case of Garcia's wife who told US authorities that the \$100,000 found in her son's possession last December was "gratitude money" from Philippine companies awarded contracts to build roads, bridges and military housing.

Pimentel's warning

Sen. Aquilino Pimentel yesterday warned that a whitewash in the investigation of certain generals' alleged ill-gotten wealth could set off a rerun of last year's failed mutiny.

Pimentel, the Senate minority leader, said a whitewash could "rekindle restiveness" among low-salaried officers and personnel and lead to another destabilization plot, "unless the guilty parties are punished."

He recalled that over 300 junior officers and their men, the so-called Magdalo group, launched the mutiny in protest of corruption, misuse of funds and low pay among others.

Pimentel called on Ms Arroyo to "translate into concrete action" her assurance that there would be no coverup.

"Unless the AFP officers who steal soldiers' money are punished properly, the Oakwood mutiny, like the Sphinx, will rise again and again," he said in a statement.

Pimentel did not say if he suspected a whitewash in Garcia's case. But he wondered why the President had not suspended retired Gen. Edgardo Espinosa, managing director of the Manila Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei, despite an order from the

Sandiganbayan.

Espinosa was ordered suspended last month by the anti-graft court in connection with charges of malversation of funds allotted for the purchase of helmets during his stint as commanding general of the Marines.

No impact

But the investigation of ranking AFP officers has no impact on the morale of the military, according to

the superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy.

"The reported corruption involving the generals has not affected our morale because if there really is a violation, we do not intend to hide that," Maj. Gen. Cristolito Balaoing told reporters at Fort del Pilar in Baguio City. With reports from Armand N. Nocum and TJ Burgonio in Manila; Desiree Caluan, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Changes to refresh PDI

From page A1

Wednesday.
Thursday, Oct. 14-Lifestyle Food expands to two sections regularly.
Saturday, Oct. 16-The much improved Real Estate section debuts a new name: Property.
The INQUIRER also starts a 4-color comics section on Sunday, Oct. 24.

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Freeze that loot

MALACANANG wants government officials under investigation for unexplained wealth to be prevented from touching the fruits of corruption.

"We support all legal means in making the freezing of all the questionable and unexplained assets of government officials being investigated for corruption a standard procedure," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said.

He added, "Corruption is a serious betrayal of the public trust and the Filipino people can be assured that the full force of the law will be applied to anyone milking the public coffers."

According to newly appointed PAGC

chair Constancia Posadas-de Guzman, "the gauge (for corruption) is the sudden change in lifestyle," especially when abroad.

De Guzman also said the case of General Garcia was not an isolated one.

"It is in the Filipino's psyche that when he has extra money, he is definitely going to splurge," she said, adding that the United States remained a favorite place for corrupt Filipino officials to spend their ill-gotten wealth.

Garcia, whose monthly salary was just a little more than P36,000, reportedly owns several pieces of real estate in the Philippines and the United States apart from cash deposits and expensive vehicles. Juliet Labag-Javellana

From page A1

A tie

But the more open format allowing

"President Bush sharpened his perfor-

No 3 mistakes

Not that simple

New debate Wednesday

Kerry and Bush have one more debate Wednesday, a forum in the western city of Tempe, Arizona that will focus strictly on domestic issues, considered the Democrats' strong suit.

From page A1

Last week's removal of 40 percent of the inter-class cross subsidy comprises the second phase. The first phase which removed one-third of the subsidy took effect in October 2003. The third phase which would remove the remaining 60 percent of the subsidy will be implemented in October 2005.

More competitive

When the inter-class cross-subsidy is totally abolished by October 2005, the rate reduction for various customer classes will be as follows: 41.75 centavos per kWh for large non-industrial service commercial customers; 37.84 centavos per kWh for extra large industrial service customers; 34.68 centavos per kWh for medium non-industrial service commercial customers; 18.99 centavos per kWh for small non-industrial services customers; 16.43 centavos per kWh for large industrial service customers, and 5.35 centavos per kWh for medium industrial service customers.

A total of 70 electric cooperatives and private power distributors have already been ordered to implement inter-class cross-study removal in various phases.

¹ Lifeline rates

Despite the removal of inter-district subsidies for Meralco customers, residential users consuming not more than kWh of electricity a month will continue receiving a 50-percent discount.

⁺ **Discounts continue**

The intra-regional grid cross-subsidy requires utilities with higher load factors and/or voltage deliveries to subsidize utilities with lower load factors and/or voltage deliveries. This then enables smaller utilities charge lower rates to their customers.

The inter-grid cross-subsidy has customer more viable regional grids subsidizing the electricity payments of customers in less viable grids. In ERC's approval of the National Power Corp.'s rates unbundling application on Jan. 26, 2002, the inter-grid cross-subsidy was ready phased out.

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ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND IN RP

A haven for abused animals

By Jocelyn R. Uy

ATOP a hilly portion of Katipunan Valley in Quezon City, undisturbed by the hustle and bustle of the busy district, is a sanctuary one could easily miss if not for the small placard bearing its name posted at the entrance.

With its spacious pebbled driveway and the lush greenery, the structure could be mistaken for a suburban home. But the thunderous barks of dogs and the soft purr of cats are dead giveaways.

The Paws Animal Rehabilitation Center (PARC) has been a refuge for abandoned cats and dogs for two years now.

But the Philippine Animal Welfare Society (PAWS), who runs the shelter through volunteers, has been around since 1954, founded by a British teacher named Muriel Jay.

In its early days, the founder

herself selected its members, who crafted stuffed toys and other items that were sold to raise funds for the shelter. They also ran a clinic for injured animals and sent out two bicycle patrols to pick up stray cats and dogs.

"But most people never heard of PAWS because it was not that active or that visible then," said Oscar Lei, director and shelter manager of PAWS.

The organization became inactive when Jay left the country. However, Nita Luchanco-Hontiveros, one of the members, was handpicked by the founder to revive the organization in 1986. Hontiveros is currently the president of PAWS.

New volunteers were added to the staff after they found out about the shelter when they brought their pets to be blessed at different parishes every Sunday.

"Young people decided to join and from there, we put up a cat haven at the back of Nita's house. Later, we also used a property she owned in Pangasinan to house rescued dogs," Lei said.

Hontiveros' home at Horse-shoe Village, Quezon City, became the headquarters of PAWS for more than 10 years. In 2002, when PARC was built through the support of International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), the animals moved to Katipunan.

Animal care programs

The 2-year-old shelter was a product of Lei's exposure to animal protection and sheltering education from the Humane Society International in 1999 and also from animal care programs in Texas and Florida.

When he returned home, together with the other PAWS board members, Lei decided to put up a shelter patterned after those he saw in the States.

"There's nothing like this in the Philippines," he said referring to PARC, now housing about 40

dogs (mostly mongrels) and 50 cats that were either abandoned by their owners or rescued.

"But we don't automatically accept them," Lei said.

Solutions first

PAWS tries to limit taking in abandoned pets, if possible or at least make it their last option.

"We come up with solutions for the problems first, and as a result, we had been successful in making people change their minds about abandoning their pets," he said.

But if no solutions are at hand, the orphaned pets are accepted in the shelter.

"If we refuse to accept them, these dogs or cats could be dumped in places where they may face danger," he added.

Lei said that PARC was built to take in abandoned pets and rescued animals primarily because animal abuse has become a perennial problem.

About four animals are abandoned in a week, he added.

Newly born or dying cats and dogs, healthy or sickly ones, regardless of breed, have a place at the shelter.

When these animals are taken in, Lei and PAWS veterinarians evaluate them to see whether or not they are fit for adoption.

The "adoptable" animals—meaning those who are young, healthy and of good temperament—are rehabilitated.

"We provide them with all the proper care. We give them food and the necessary vaccine shots, we neuter them so they will not add to the numbers," Lei said.

The shelter, however, resorts to euthanasia when the animals exhibit extreme aggressiveness, severe malnutrition or when they have rabies and other highly contagious diseases.

But the sickly animals are also given a second chance.



CATS such as this one are usually given free to responsible pet owners.

PHOTOS BY AUGUST DELACRUZ

"We don't put sick animals to sleep automatically once we take them in," said Lei.

"But if they don't respond to the treatment, then it could be something more serious. That's when we put them down," he added.

Happy ending

One of the tasks of PARC is to give abandoned animals a happy ending—that is to find them suitable owners.

An adoption fee of P1,000 is asked for dogs, but cats come free. At present, 60 percent to 70 percent of the animals at the shelter are waiting for a new home, Lei said.

"I really cannot stop people from buying purebred pets. But if they buy a dog from pet shops or breeders, then they are depriving an animal here to have a home,"



Lei: Pets deserve second chance.

he said, adding that the best reward for volunteers like him is to see their animals adopted.

Currently, PAWS has more than 200 volunteers. The youngest volunteer is 14 years old and the oldest, he said, is the PAWS presi-

dent. It also has six veterinarians.

Donations

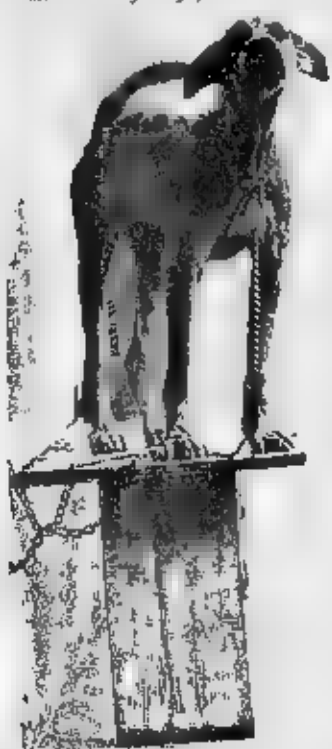
From time to time, the shelter receives donations, either in cash or in kind (dog and cat food), from good Samaritans.

Master Foods, Inc., the manufacturer of Pedigree and Whiskas, provides the shelter with dog and cat food regularly, Lei said.

"The idea we wanted to convey to the public is that pets are also members of the family. If you are having fun, be sure your pets are also having fun with you," Lei said.

(Interested parties can help PAWS by sending donations through the following banks.

BPI, USD account # 3944 0021-61/Php Acct. # 3943-0086-11 or PNB, Php account # 072 830174-0. Or call 475-1688.)



A RESCUED dog in the shelter

Ospital ng Maynila patient care program bags award

By Laila B. Salaverria

A SYSTEM at the city-owned Ospital ng Maynila that improved patient care and reduced a patient's need to go to a hospital has gained international recognition, winning in one of the categories of the Asian Hospital Management Awards 2004.

The Ospital ng Maynila's Department of Surgery won in the Human Resource and Development category for its Knowledge Management System, the city government said in a statement.

The award was presented

in ceremonies at the Plaza Athenee Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand, to hospital director Christa Padolina and surgery department head Reynaldo Joson.

The Ospital ng Maynila bested 166 projects from 55 hospitals in 11 countries, and it is also the first public hospital to win in the Asian Hospital Management Awards. In the past two years, only two private, high-end hospitals in the Philippines bagged awards from the said organization.

Manila Mayor Lito Arizena was all praises for the city

hospital, pointing out that something run by the government could best even the privately-owned facilities.

"I have always believed that officials and personnel of our city-owned hospitals could think out of the box, as it were, to come up with innovative ways to improve the services provided to patients, most of whom are indigents," Arizena said in a statement released by his office.

He added that the award is a testament to the competence and creativity of the health personnel of the Ospital ng Maynila.

Trash sack for Reyes

TWO MEN and a teenager were nabbed after they allegedly threw a sack of trash into the van of Local Government Secretary Angelo Reyes in Mandaluyong City yesterday.

Police said the van, with Reyes on board, was about to pass through the underpass at Edsa and Shaw Boulevard when the alleged incident happened.

Reyes' security men ran after the suspects and brought them to the police.

Two of the suspects—identified as Robert Amie, 23, and Luisito Diones, 22—and a 15-year-old boy, are facing charges of malicious mischief.

Ruth Navarza

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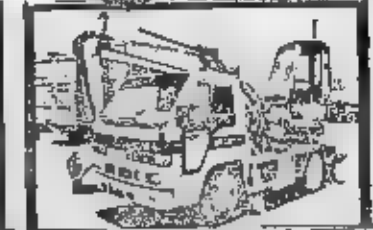
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PARADE OF NATIONS

Members of the European communities and partners led by Ambassador Jan de Kok, head of the Delegation of the European Commission (2nd from right), European Union ambassadors and diplomats, and students and faculty from the French and German Schools, Ateneo de Manila University, De La Salle University and University of the Philippines held recently a "Parade of Nations" to celebrate the enlargement of the European Union and the European Day in Makati City.

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SOCIOLOGICAL

Figure 1

Figure 1 shows two maps of the study area. The top map displays the location of the study area within the state of Georgia, highlighting the counties of Wilkes and Spalding. The bottom map provides a detailed view of the study area, showing the locations of the four sampling sites (A, B, C, and D) relative to the town of Dalton and the Georgia-Florida border.

1. The first step is to identify the problem or goal. This involves understanding the current situation and what needs to be achieved.

ANGKATAN PANGASINAN

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and titles, including "The Hon. Mr. Justice" and "The Hon. Mr. Justice".

THE FUTURE

Table 1. *Continued*

10

DOJ ruling on 7 pros out this week

By Philip C. Tubaza

EXCEPT for Asi Taulava, the Department of Justice is scheduled to release this week its ruling on foreign-born basketball players who allegedly faked their citizenship papers, the head of the investigating panel said on Friday.

However, the DOJ is not expected to rule on the citizenship of Taulava, who had obtained a court injunction to stop the department from looking into his case.

PBA commissioner Noli Eala said he has asked Talk 'N Text to convince Taulava to drop the injunction to allow the DOJ to complete its investigation.

Reacting to the INQUIRER story that the task force formed by the justice department to investigate the players will submit a recommendation favorable to Taulava and Co., Eala said the league "will just wait for the DOJ to finish its investigation and refrain from speculating."

"For us, the DOJ's final say will also be the final word on that issue," he added.

Chief State Counsel Ricardo Paras III said the DOJ is expected to rule on the citizenship of seven other Philippine Basketball Association (PBA) players after four of them had already submitted their position papers.

"Hopefully, we will submit our report next week," Paras said yesterday.

Paras heads the special DOJ committee. Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez created two weeks ago to investigate the eight players who allegedly faked their citizenship papers.

Besides Talk 'N Text's Taulava, the other players being investigated are Rudy Hatfield of Coca-Cola, Andy Seigle of Purefoods, Red Bull Barako's Davonn Harp, Mick Pennisi and Jonathan Ordonio, Barangay Ginebra's Alex Crisano, and Dorian Peña of San Miguel Beer.

Paras said that Hatfield, Peña, Seigle and Crisano had already submitted their position papers to the committee and that it was just waiting for the explanation of Ordonio, Harp, and Pennisi.

Paras added the committee is not tackling the case of Taulava due to an injunction he had earlier secured from the Manila Regional Trial Court.

Paras said the committee would also review the records to find out if there were evidence showing that PBA officials or team owners and managers were involved in the alleged tampering of official records.

Purefoods faces Coke

Games Today (Araneta Coliseum)
4 p.m.—Purefoods vs Coca-Cola
6:30 p.m.—Ginebra vs Sta. Lucia

By Musong R. Castillo

PUREFOODS and Coca-Cola collide today, seeking a share of the early lead in the elimination round of the Gran Matador PBA Philippine Cup at the Araneta Coliseum.

The Tender Juicy Hotdogs and the Tigers take the floor at 4 p.m. with the winner joining Talk 'N Text on top.

The Phone Pals won for the second straight time Friday night, outlasting Alaska, 94-86, after getting 22 points from Willie Miller and 21 from Asi Taulava.

Ginebra San Miguel and Sta. Lucia, losers in their respective debuts, slug it out in the other contest set at 6:30.

Purefoods will be coming into the match fresh from mangling the Kings in a game where it tied by as many as 28 points.

The Tigers are also in high spirits after a sophomore took over and gave the team a new offensive option. Gary David scattered a career-high 20 points for Coke as a result of a long off-season conditioning program among the team's young ones.

The Ginebra-Sta. Lucia tilt, meanwhile, should be interesting with both teams touted highly despite little activity in the off-season.

The Ginebra have kept their Fiesta Conference-winning squad intact but were listless in stumbling against the Hotdogs.

Both teams have formidable frontline starters with the Marlou Aquino-Dennis Espino combination of Sta. Lucia still standing out as one of the tallest, most productive in the league.

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Japan tops downhill

By June M. Navarro

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY— Armed with nerves of steel and superior equipment, Japan dominated yesterday the downhill events of the 10th Asian Mountain Bike Championships in the hilly terrain of Sitio Magarwak in Barangay Sta. Lourdes here.

Yasushi Adachi was fearless as Mio Suemasa as both conquered the 1.7 km course with speed and precision to capture the gold in the men's and women's elite downhill competition.

Adachi clocked two minutes and nine seconds, just three ticks ahead of compatriot of Hiroki Maruyama to finish 1-2

in their category. Indonesia's Setiawan Sugianto (2:14) was third.

Joey Barba emerged the best Filipino in the event after finishing seventh in 2:12. Michael Borja ended up 11th (2:12) while Parabanne Mendoza wound up 14th and last.

It was the same Japan-Japan-Indonesia result in the women's side with Suemasa, who won a silver in the recent World Championships in France, beating teammate Miho Kamoshita by eight seconds with a 2:32 clocking.

The Filipinos were also outclassed in the women's downhill with none but Athena Beltran placing sixth and last after logging 5:17 in the event organized by Philcycling and sponsored by Air21.

The 5-foot-6 Kamoshita uses a Honda-manufactured production bike

worth \$70,000 (P3.9 million), which has yet to be introduced in the market.

Jefferson Odvar could have given the Filipinos a medal in the boys' downhill but he was given a five-second penalty for missing a required jump from a ramp.

The penalty allowed Hong Kong's Chun Kau Tsui (2:39) to nip Odvar for the bronze by just a second.

Hong Kong's Ka Ho Liu (2:18) won the gold while Mohammadreza Hosseinzadeh (2:36) secured the silver in the event sponsored by Asturias Hotel, Hotel Fluoris and Kinabuch Grill.

The Filipinos will try to capture a medal today as Eusebio Quiñones, Frederick Fenciano, Ruel Casajay and Maritess Bitbit compete in the men's and women's cross-country event.



MIHO Kamoshita works her way through the rocky terrain en route to second place in the women's downhill.

Dandan prevails

THIRD seed Filipino Kyle Joshua Dandan shocked top seed Taiwanese Chang Huan-En, 6-2, 7-5, yesterday to capture the boys' singles title in the Phinma-Futures Foundation International Juniors Tennis Championships at the Ynares Socio-Cultural Sports Center in Pasig City.

It was the first-ever ITF Juniors title for the 15-year-old Dandan, who played in the Orange Bowl Championships two years ago.

In the girls' singles, third seed American Veronica Li defeated third seed Filipino-German Anya Vanessa Peter, 6-2, 6-4. Peter was also a runnerup in the Enervon first leg last week.

2nd Ipap golf tourney at Southwoods Oct. 13

THE 2nd Intellectual Property Association of the Philippines (IPAP) golf tournament will be held on Oct. 13 at the Manila Southwoods to raise funds for its scholarship program.

IPAP is led by Angell Angela G.

Quirino as president, Bong Somera as scholarship committee chair, Rico V. Domingo as tournament chair and lawyer Antonio Audie Bucoy as media relations officer.

To buy tickets and for more information, contact Rowena Escudeta at the IPAP office at 2304-A Tektite West Tower, Philippine Stock Exchange Center, Ortigas Center, Pasig, tel. 687-6443 and e-mail ipphu@in-

fo.com.ph.

Aguilar eyes double victory in Bacolod

CALTEX-Revtex top rider Glen Aguilar aims for another double victory in the centerpiece Pro Open and Pro 125 divisions of the Camel Supercross Championship, which heads to Bacolod today.

Aguilar, who has dominated the local motocross scene for seven years, is again picked to obliterate the opposition, the way he wiped out the field in the first leg three weeks ago in Roxas City.

The Revtex Rocket, who boasts an FIM Asia-Pacific championship and seven National Rider of the Year titles, was peerless in both the Pro Open and 125 categories, where he pulled away from the pursuing pack and eventually caught

up with the 2nd placers on the way to the finish.

"This (performance) is a product of years of hard work and perseverance, not only in the local motocross circuit but in the international field as well," said Aguilar, who also pointed out to the Revtex Oil that he uses.

Kenneth San Andres, another Revtex standout, also scored a double win in the Novice 125 and Novice Open while new Revtex recruit Jerick Mikra ruled the Pee-wee division, beating Rap-Rap Enriquez.

In the Pro Open category, Revtex riders pulled off a 1-2-3-4 finish (Aguilar-Beber Dela Cruz-Jerry Beech-Alvin Beech).

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A Village of Heroes

The SMART Amazing Village at Gawad Kalinga's GK 777: Bawa't Pilipino Bayani

As the sun set on Saturday, October 2, 2004, the celebrations at the Fort open field in Taguig began. For two days, Gawad Kalinga had shown to the public the real gains in social development that together with SMART Communications has made every Filipino a hero.

There are no distinct victims or rescuers in a Gawad Kalinga village as the SMART Amazing Village has shown. Instead there is an intimate partnership that emerges. Beneficiaries receive the tools and capital but provide the labor and collaboration in community planning. The SMART Amazing Village gives people in need an opportunity to put themselves up, a bootstrap

approach that renews a community's dignity and its soul. They are made proud again.

According to Gawad Kalinga, "GK is not a work of charity, it is a mission of nation building and a crusade for every Filipino. It involves every sector of society."

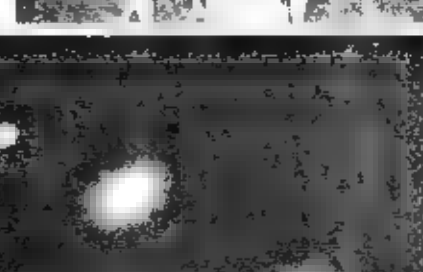
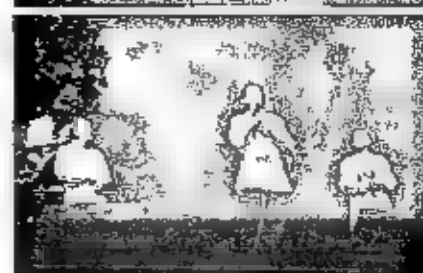
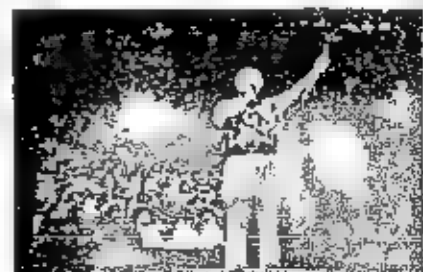
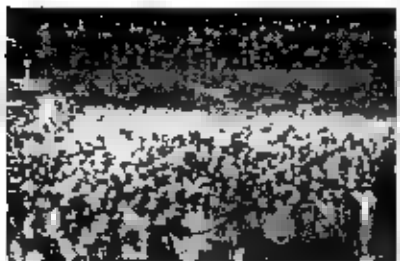
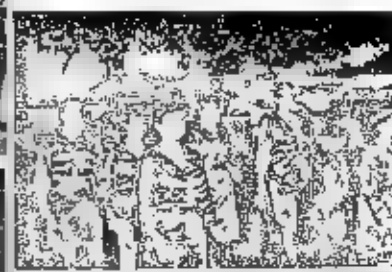
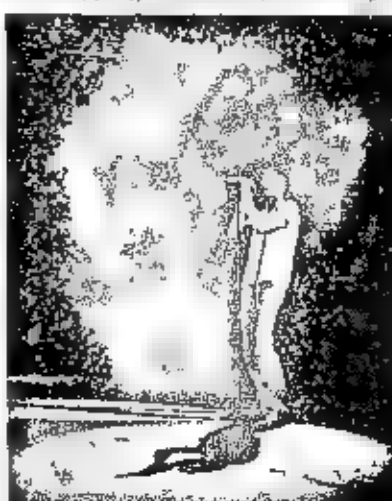
The SMART Amazing Village, already well under way at the Baseco Compound in Tondo, will provide homes for a community once razed by fire. But more than that, SMART will also give these families a future, enabling them in livelihood projects that draw on SMART's mobile know-how. Community members will be trained in SMART Load and Talk 'N Text Tawag 'N Text Partner retailing, one of the fastest growing areas of new entrepreneurship.

And so on this day, a sunset

marked a beginning. As the estimated crowd of 100,000 was mindful of the "GK 777" target theme of building 700,000 homes in 7,000 communities in 7 years, the night was also a celebration of GK's "Champions". These were people who were crucial in realizing GK's ultimate goal of rebuilding communities with their dignity and self-respect intact. President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo was joined by former President Corason, C Aquino, Fr Ben Nebres, and Bishop Precioso Cantillas as GK Champions.

This is a start. It signals a new way of thinking, of a simple yet effective approach in nation building: partnering corporations with a people's pride and willingness to help themselves. As President GMA herself said, "GK

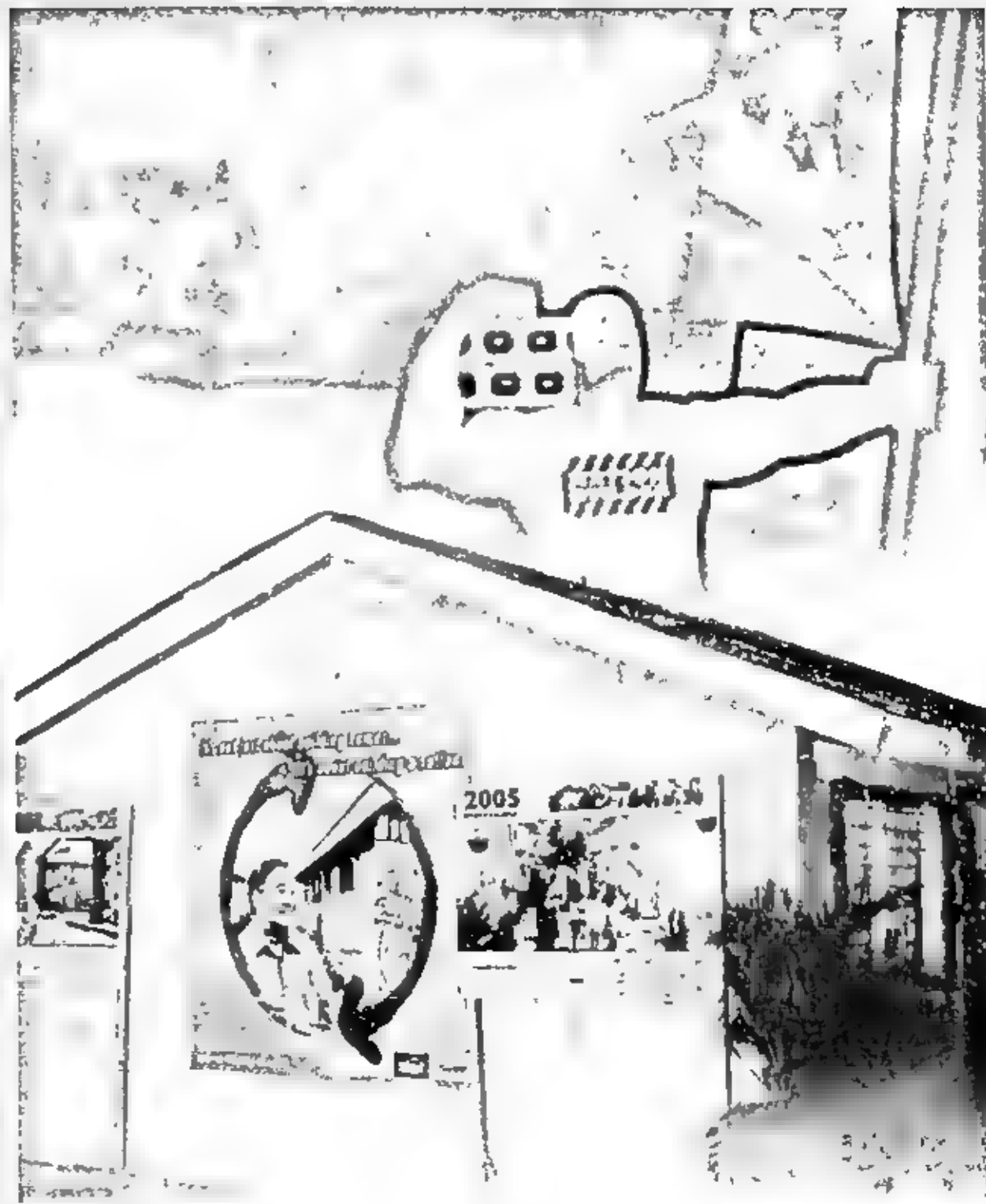
777 is the inspiration behind the housing program for the next 6 years." Real progress is in the offing.





President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo

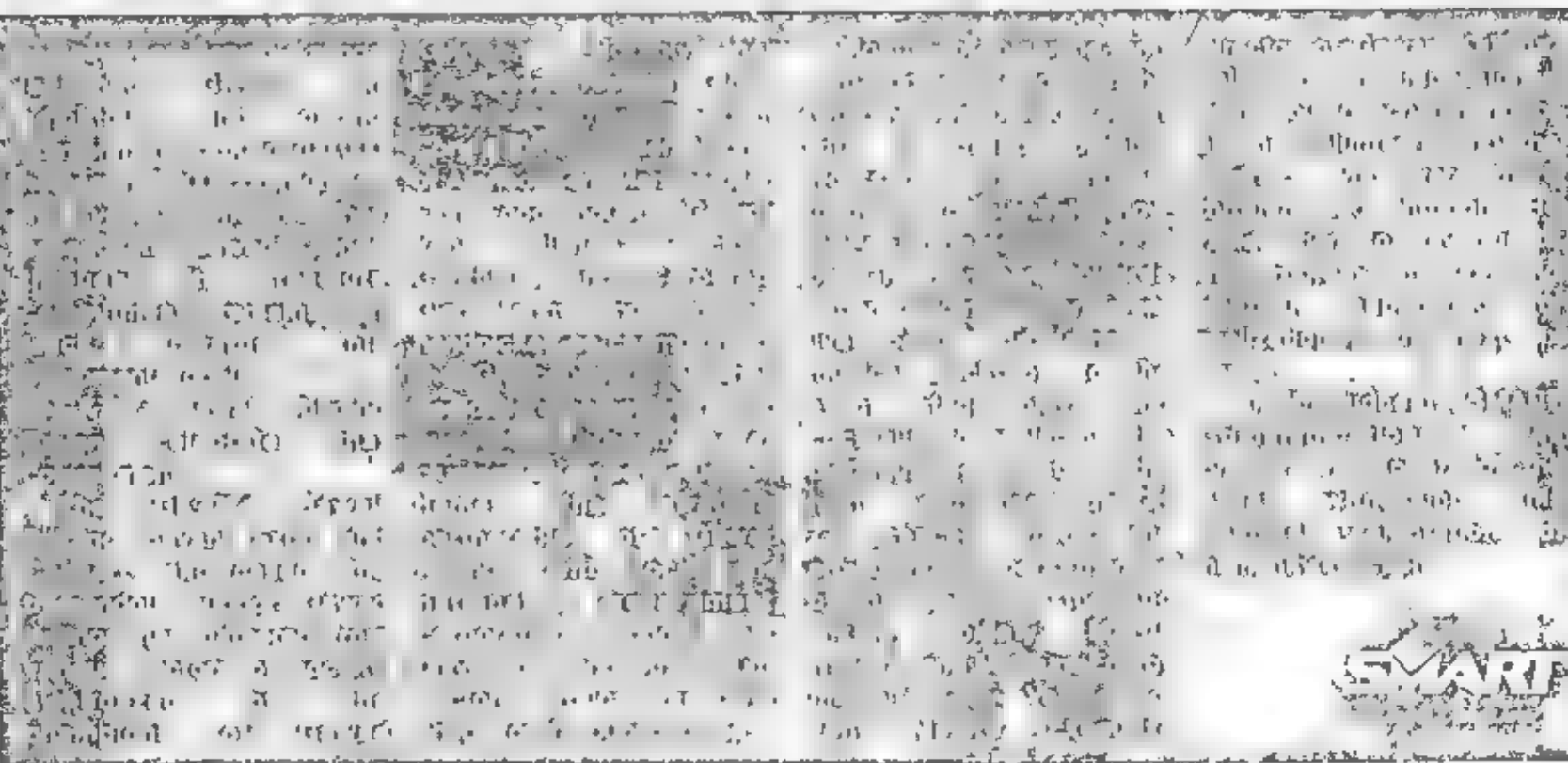
Vice-President Noli De Castro with
DSWD Secretary Dinky Soliman



GK777 MOVING FORWARD



Fr. Ben Nebres
of Ateneo University



It's not just about building homes.



It's about building nation

TWIN WIN: Twins Therine and Paula Chan of La Salle defeat Far Eastern's Criselda Sarabia and Ma. Therese Sebastian, 15-9, 15-9, to top the ladies' doubles finals of the Del Monte 202 First Philippine Collegiate Badminton Cup Thursday at the SM Megamall Atrium and bag the P25,000 prize.



PLATINUM TILT

Saberon tows Old Market

LED BY former tennis star Jennifer Saberon, the 1991 South-east Asian Games gold medalist, Old Market took the opening of the Battle of the Courts: National Inter-Club Platinum Cup by storm, virtually clinching a final four slot with a 4-0 start yesterday at the West Drive Badminton Club in Pasig.

Also anchored by former PBA assistant coach Joey Guanio and cousin Dion, Old Market racked

up victories over Smashers, Greenpark, Badminton Buddies and Shuttle's Best Riverbank to top Group B of the qualifiers.

Myan's was not far off after stringing wins against Smashers, Badminton Buddies and Shuttle's Best Riverbank while Badminton Gold also loomed as a Group B threat with victories over Smashers and Shuttle's Best Riverbank in the largest inter-club tournament presented

by Globe Platinum and INQUIRER BADMINTON.

Valle Verde, leaning on former tennis national team mainstay Randy Villanueva, booked a slot in the final four with a 3-0 record, defeating Shuttle's Best-C-5, Feather Alley and Players Best, which was 3-0 before running into the favored club.

West-Drive Center in Pasig split its four outings in the tournament also sponsored by the

Philippine Airlines, Muzono and L. Timestudio. Gerflor Taraflex is mat sponsor and Nestlé is the official drink provider.

Standings

Group A: Valle Verde 3-0, Players' Best 3-1, West Drive 2-2, Hillcrest 1-1, Feather Alley 0-2, Shuttle's Best-C-5 0-3.

Group B: Old Market, 3-0, Myan's 3-0, Badminton Gold 2-0, Greenpark BC 2-1, Badminton Buddies 1-3, Shuttle's Best-RB 1-3.

Asi, Joey and Dean Tony

Maria-Cyan storms to MARP Cup lead

MARIA-CYAN booked the strong finish of Auxilio-Magenta to grab the early lead with 12 points in the 1st MARP Badminton Tournament yesterday at the Sheridan Badminton Court in Mandaluyong.

Prieto-Black saw a six-point edge get wiped out in the lower levels to settle for an 11-all tie with Rufino-Yellow for second and third places. Auxilio-Magenta is currently at fourth with 10 points.

Maria-Cyan took an early 11-7 edge via 2-0 decisions hammered out by the tandems of Raul Marcelo and Doris Dumlaog, Adela Mendoza and Sonny Cruz, Mike Salonga and Noli Navarro, and Delson Tanguora and Volt Contreras.

But Auxilio-Magenta, which stayed in the hunt on the 2-0 triumph of Carlo Mercado and Prescy Prago, blunted the charge by claiming three of the last four points as Marife Reyes and Emelita Millare blanked Bobby Cristuta and Mercy Rosales while Alexa Bacay and Diane Villafuerte salvaged a thrilling 1-1 tie against Adela Geraldo and Jhicka Alcantara.

Prieto-Black got off to the hottest start in the tournament held in honor of PDI chair Martin R. Prieto, cornering eight of the first 10 points against Rufino-Yellow.

Bong Viray and Jun Isles, Chona Gomez and Richard Cuaserna, and the husband-wife tandem of Mark and Vangie Reyes chipped in 2-0 for Prieto-Black, which drew a crucial, heart-stopping 1-1 tie courtesy of Abel Ulanday and Ruth Navana.

But Rufino-Yellow made a late rally as it clustered eight points on 2-0 victories by Ruby dela Cruz and Boy-ung Ilagan, Joel Macawile and Jojo Samonte, Lorna Araneta and Celita Perez, and Mylene de Jesus and Tess dela Cruz.

Frances Karigbak and Carmela Teres Almonte staved off the rally with a late 2-0 triumph.

The tournament opened with speeches from chairman Prieto and Inquirer president Sandy Prieto-Romualdez, who later paired off with Martin Fernandez in an exhibition match against INQUIRER SVP Dave Veldez and Inquirer badminton squad head coach Martin Araneta.

IF IT'S true that Asi Taulava & Co. will soon be declared true Pinoy, what will that make of former Senators Robert Barbers and John Osmenia? Incompetent?

You see, Barbers and Osmenia, when they were still senators, had made conclusions, following an exhaustive Senate hearing in 2003, that Taulava and seven other Fil-Ams in the PBA produced fake documents to earn an affirmation from the Department of Justice that they have Filipino blood in their veins.

For the record, the PBA only accepts Fil-Ams certified as having Filipino lineage by the DOJ. Which means, any insinuations of fakery in their submitted documents insofar as the Fil-Ams are concerned should always emanate from the DOJ.

As I keep saying here, questioning the citizenship of anyone is easy. It's in the proving that makes all the difference.

I had said here a while back that, according to my lawyer-friend who handles citizenship cases, an aggrieved party (a PBA player or players, for one) has to hale Taulava & Co. to court and produce evidence that they acquired their citizenship on falsified documents.

We just can't talk and talk and talk, the way some of our homegrown stars have been doing all these years. If you have the goods against them, file the case, period.

Here's a glass to Grandmaster Joey Antonio for setting aside his personal differences with Sammy Esurho, whose election as captain of the Philippine team to the World Chess Olympiad in Majorca, Spain, this month has made Joey's blood curdle again. By heeding the plea of new chess chief Go Teng Kok "to shelve his differences with Sammy momentar-

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza



ily," Joey proved to one and all that he is a reasonable man. But more importantly, with his gesture, Joey showed his patriotism to the hilt.

It is common knowledge that Joey and Sammy don't see eye to eye.

But then, here we all are, set to fight for flag and country in a foreign land. Any bickering in the main troops set to do battle in Spain will only result in a divided stand against the opposition. How many times has it been said that "divided we fall, united we stand?"

Sammy E. couldn't be denied. The secretary general of the National Chess Federation of the Philippines was unanimously chosen captain by the NCFP board, with GTK giving him his unqualified nod. For anyone to question that is without logic and he has no leg to stand on, so to speak.

But as I said, I'm glad that Joey, now the country's Board One in Spain as Eugene Torre has graciously relinquished that post in favor of the GM from Mindoro, has set aside his dislike for Sammy. I call that a Board One move worthy of emulation by every athlete tasked to carry the nation's colors abroad.

My golf buddy, Dean Antonio H. Abad, is calling on his UP High School Class '54 to join the batch's golden anniversary on Dec. 3, 4

and 5, marked by a sentimental journey at the UP campus, luncheon at the Bahay Alumni and a dinner/dance at Caylabne in Ternate, Cavite.

Dean Tony says Fr. Rey Garcia, SJ, a member of Class '54, is flying from Michigan where he is based to officiate a Mass at the Church of the Holy Sacrifice on Dec. 3. UP President Dodong Nemenzo will be present at the luncheon party, with Class member Ben Gozon hosting the cocktails at the Manila Polo Club in Makati.

Glass president Paddy Bayhon says he expects classmates based in the US, Canada, Germany, Denmark and Australia to arrive for the occasion. Other members can call Dean Tony at 8440583, 8438621 and 8921628, Mila Cifra-Aserado at 2824023 and 2818953, and Puring Bautista-Santos at 8447990 for other details.

"If you are free on those days, please be my guest," Dean Tony says over the phone. "But first, why don't you join us for a round of golf at Valley on Oct. 22?"

Thank you, Dean, but I have an appointment on that day. Next time. Meanwhile, here's wishing you and your classmates a successful homecoming.

FASTBREAK. My deepest condolences to my fellow sportswriters Bong Pedraza, the sub-editor for sports of The Manila Times, and Gerry Carpio, the assistant sports editor of The Philippine Star. Bong lost his father, and Gerry his 19-year-old son. Gerry, the one with the gentlest of hearts, tragically lost his eldest, Peter John, to a vehicular accident three nights ago when he fell off a jeepney on his way home from school.



Lady Falcons win

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE ADAMSON Lady Falcons finished where they started—right on top.

Most Valuable Player Mercediana Aray delivered her most remarkable performance in the Finals series with 18 points and 17 rebounds as the Lady Falcons bagged their second straight UAAP women's basketball championship by repulsing the Ateneo Lady Eagles, 72-69, in overtime yesterday at the Makati Coliseum.

"This is a memorable championship especially for (Marites) Gadian and (Janeth) Yanez because it was their last playing year. We made adjustments in our defense and Ateneo also got tired," said Adamson coach Emilia Vega.

Yanez shot eight points including a crucial jumper that put Adamson on top, 70-68, with only 56 seconds

remaining in the extension period.

Jenilyn Constantino shot 17 points, while Gadian, a Mythical Team member, added 13 points and nine rebounds.

Ateneo took Game 1 of the Finals series, 67-64, but Adamson forced a do-or-die showdown with a 47-46 squeaker in Game 2.

The Lady Falcons, who topped the eliminations with an impressive 11-1 record, had the chance to wrap it up in regulation but the Lady Eagles scored three of four freethrows that forced the extension at 64-64.

The series:

ADAMSON 72—Aray 18, Constantino 17, Bombao 14, Gadian 13, Yanez 8, Jaleco 2, Lomogda 0, Ravago 0.

ATENEU 69—Villanueva 26, Chua 11, Tiosono 9, Caynap 8, Barras 5, Tanchi 4, Quirope 2, Nyo 2, Gripales 1.

Quarters: 15-22, 34-42, 51-53, 64-64, 72-68.



RUSSELL Martin Sharapova returns the ball against Maheina Washington of the US en route to winning the Japan Open.

Fujian five triumphs

THE MOTOR Star Motor Cycle team from Fujian, China turned back the challenge of the Philippine Women's Team, fashioning out a 74-72 victory to rule the 2nd National Women's Invitational Championship at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

The Chinese who, like the RP Nationals, entered the court with a spotless record, pounced on the errors of the Filipinas in the dying seconds to capture the title in this event organized by the Basketball Association of the Philippines.

Trailing by a mere point at 72-73, the Nationals actually had a golden opportunity to steal the win when veteran pointguard Emelia Vega pulled down the rebound after a Fujian miss.

Vega ran downcourt and launched a fastbreak attack but was hit in the hand by a Chinese defensive player when she was about to pass off to a streaking Mervina Narciso, thereby turning the ball over to the other side.

Earlier, the National Athletic Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities selection whipped Bulacan State U, 61-52, to clinch fourth place. PMI placed third.

M. Lhuillier sweeps 1st round

BOGO, Cebu—The M. Lhuillier-Cebu City Jewelers survived a tough defensive struggle against regional rival Lactovital-Cebu Province Probiotics, 67-60, to sweep the first round of the United Regional Basketball League (URBL) First Conference Friday night at the Don Celestino Martinez Coliseum.

It was a close fight throughout as

both sides battled through deadlocks and lead changes in one of the best played games thus far in this league being supported by adidas and Lactovital.

Probiotics veterans Gilbert Castillo, Lowell Briones and Derrick Bughao engaged Jewelers Bong Marata and Leo Bat-og in a first half shootout that saw M. Lhuillier take a 36-35 lead.

The high-scoring trio of Marata, Bruce Dacia and Woodrow Enriquez turned in clutch freethrows in the stretch to lift their team to their fourth straight win. Lactovital dropped to 1-3.

The URBL resumes tomorrow at the Quezon Convention Center in Lucena City with the Quezon Coco Huskers hosting the Ilocos Sur Supers at 6 p.m.

Gabi vs Thai today

By Salven L. Lagumbay
Contributor

WORLD Boxing Council No. 8 flyweight Diosdado "Prince" Gabi puts his world ranking on the line today when he faces Saurang Pathavikorn-Gym of Thailand in Antipus, North Cotabato.

"Today's fight is meant to keep Gabi active. We will look for a knockout if we see an opening," said Soc Pinal, who manages Gabi with the backing of North Cotabato Gov. Manny Pinal.

Gabi has not seen action since winning the WBC International flyweight belt with a 12th-round technical decision over Randy Mangubat in November last year.

The southpaw Gabi (21-2-1, 16 KOs) was supposed to fight WBC champ Pongsaklek Wonggongkam last Oct. 8, but Thai promoter Virat Vachuratanawongse junked the Filipino days before the fight.

Today's event, dubbed "Vendetta," will be hosted by Antipus mayor Cris Cadungon at the town's municipal gym.

SPORTSWATCH

Mangubat loses anew to WBC champ

RANDY Mangubat suffered yet another unanimous decision loss from World Boxing Council flyweight king Pongsaklek Wonggongkam last Oct. 8 in a non-title fight at the Boxing Stadium de Patong in Thailand. The Filipino, who had previously lost to the Thai hero in 1996, 1999, and 2003, again found Pongsaklek just too tough in the bout held as part of the 42nd WBC Annual Convention recently. Wonggongkam (53-2, 29 KOs) is scheduled to make a mandatory defense against 10th ranked Noriyuki Komatsu of Japan. Mangubat's record dipped to 31 wins, 21 losses, 12 draws with 14 knockouts. *Salven Lagumbay, Contributor*

Fistorama features 2 flyweight bouts

"SAMSUNG'S Fistorama" today features two super-flyweight bouts. Cristo Delmellillo faces Ruben Hermoso in four rounds and Felix Manglansan squares off with Bernabe Concepcion in six rounds. Both fights are at 115 lbs. The bouts were two of the action-filled bouts in the fight card held at the Angono Municipal gym in Angono, Rizal, recently. The show is aired at 2 p.m. Sundays, on RPN-9 and is backed by Samsung Electronics Phils. Corp., PCSO, Mapeco, Tanduay Rum.

PLDT-myDSL Village Hoops on

THE ADIDAS Sports Kamp (ASK) formally opens its PLDT-myDSL Village Hoops tournament at the Fort Bonifacio Global City in Taguig today. "On behalf of the Kamp, we would like to welcome all the players and coaches in the opening rites today. We wish everybody the best," said Arsenic Laurel, Adidas Sports Kamp president and head of the organizing committee. Laurel and the other kamp board of directors, Joel Jimenez and lawyer Chris Lim, are taking part in the ceremonial toss of the five-week event presented by PLDT-myDSL in cooperation with major sponsors Volvo and Carrier. Rudy Project, GNC, Sari-Sari Group of Companies, Pepsi, Red Bull, Royal Jamaican Patties, Informatics. Hotshots are the other sponsors.

10-K Run for Road Safety today

THE "1ST Auto Review 10K Run for Road Safety and Courtesy" fires off at 6 a.m. today with World Health Organization representative to the Philippines Dr. Jean Marc Olive as special guest at the CCP Complex in Pasay City. Participating car and oil companies and support groups are fielding almost 400 executives and staff to combine with more than 1,500 open category runners in the 10K, 5K and 3K events.

LGBA 7-Stag Derby at Araneta

THE EXPLOSIVE showdown of provincial cockfighting stars, each one aiming to win the elusive Gamecock Breeder of the Year plum, resumes on Oct. 12 and 14 via the second leg of "Luzon Gamecock Breeders Association Inc. (LGBA) 7-Stag Derby" at the Araneta Coliseum. The elimination round featuring more than 100 fights will start at 11 a.m. on Tuesday. Submission of weights is on Monday from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. and interested parties may contact 911-2928 and 911-3101. Newcomer Jong Morales of Marinduque is leading the race with 6.5 points after his unheralded bet. JIM Sikatuna topped the first leg on Sept. 29. Trailing him with six points each are Tony Boy Tabora, Esting Teopaco and Capt. Ben Rodriguez. Noel Zoleta, Carrie Chua and Benjie Lim and Manuel Lito. LGBA president Rene "Boy" Diaz said a bonus of P100,000 will go to derby champions.

Philisca rules arnis tourney

HOST Technological University of the Philippines-Manila won three gold medals even as Philippine State College of Aeronautics (PHILSCA) ran away with the overall championship with seven in the arnis competition of the Philippine Schools, Universities Athletic Association (PSCUAA) held at the TUP campus recently. Akryna Marquez topped the women's heavyweight category for TUP, while Raymond Villanueva won the gold in the men's division. The other gold was won by Aileen Legacion. TUP also added five silvers. Eukigio Amang Rodriguez Institute of Technology placed third with three golds, a silver and four bronze medals.



PATAKBONG PINOY: Runners have to walk along a narrow street in Angeles City during the recent Beam Zest-O Patakbong Pinoy for Francisco Nepomuceno High School students. Franklin Mintar and Reil Garcia topped the event held by the Media Runners and Sports Promotions and backed by Beam Toothpaste and Zest-O Juice Drinks.

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RED SOX ADVANCE

Yankees take series lead

MINNEAPOLIS—Backed by Derek Jeter's three RBIs and a relentless offense, Kevin Brown threw six strong innings to lead the New York Yankees past the frustrated Minnesota Twins, 8-4, on Friday for a 2-1 lead in the best-of-five American League playoff series.

Hoping to save Minnesota's season, ace Johan Santana will start on three days' rest Saturday against Javier Vazquez.

Bernie Williams extended a major league

record by hitting his 20th postseason homer, a two-run shot off Carlos Silva that put the Yankees up 5-1 in the sixth.

Jeter went 3-for-5 and Hideki Matsui also homered for New York—now just one win away from a bitter rematch with the rival Boston Red Sox in the AL championship series.

"I don't care about Boston right now," Jeter said.

In Boston, David Ortiz homered in the 10th inning to send Boston into its second consecutive AL championship series, completing a three-game sweep of Anaheim with an 8-6 victory.

Ortiz also had a pair of doubles as Boston rode starter Bronson Arroyo to a five-run lead after six innings. But Vladimir Guerrero hit a grand slam to tie it 6-6 in the seventh and send the game to extra innings.

Ortiz hit the first pitch over the Green Monster to send the Fenway Park crowd—so quiet since Guerrero's homer—into pandemonium.

"I just (didn't) feel like going back to California," he said.

"We want to get to the World Series," Arroyo said. AP

30 delegates due for SEAGF meeting

By Marc Anthony Reyes

SOME 30 delegates from 10 Southeast Asian Games Federation members will start arriving today for the last SEAGF Federation meeting that will finalize all aspects of the country's hosting of the biennial event next year.

Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah of Brunei and Prince Imran of Malaysia will attend the meeting

to be hosted by the Philippine Olympic Committee tomorrow and Tuesday at the New World Hotel in Makati.

Also due are Minister Nguyen Danh Thai of Vietnam, Gen. Charoach Arirachakarn of Thailand, Dr. Samedy of Cambodia and other top NOC officials.

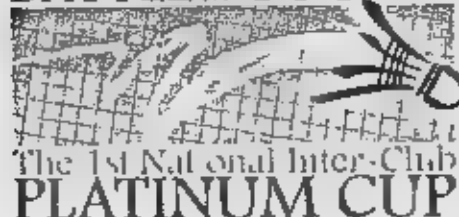
Philsoc chair Roberto Pagdanganan and POC president Celso Dayrit will report on the status of the country's preparation.



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/A39
/A34

By Margot R. Cruz

Daddy's reminders

No more AI tag

Jasmine said she would fly to Hawaii for a little R&R after her 10-day visit to the Philip-



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Jump (For Your Love) by Girls Aloud
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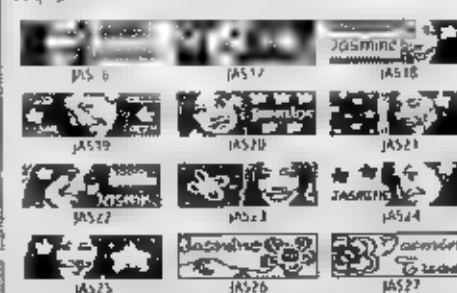
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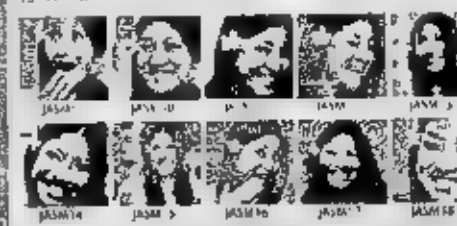
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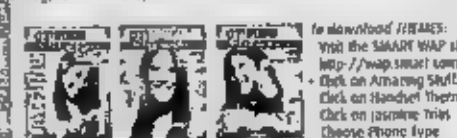
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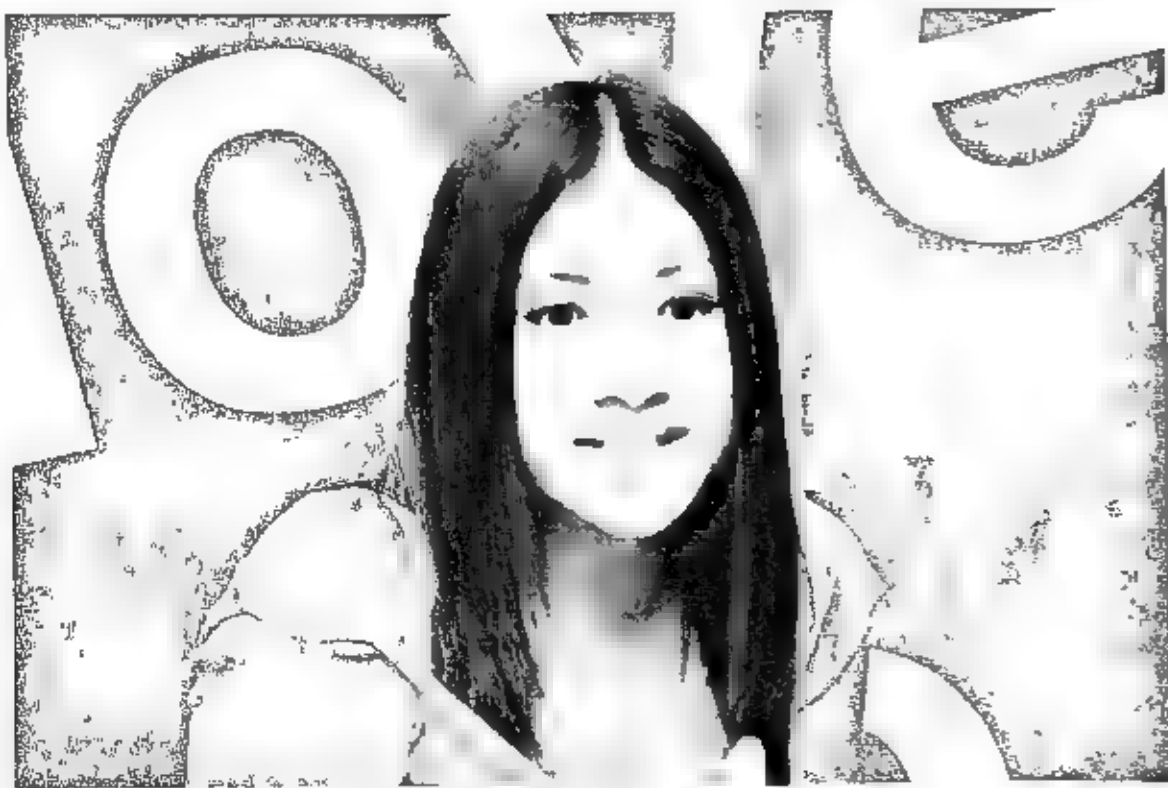
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JASMINE/ A35





"MY CHALLENGE is to move forward with my career," says Jasmine.

JOSEPH MAGCABIG

Jasmine 'kind of scared' to visit RP

From page A33

pinas. She will then go to Los Angeles to record her debut album under the 19 Management record label.

"My music would be more pop and soul," she said. "I've composed a couple of songs and hopefully I could work on that (when I get to LA). The songs are about my life. I wrote songs about pride, and happiness."

Like a family

According to her dad, the Idols and their parents all became very close after spending time together for almost seven months. "We were like a family," he said. "During the last show, almost everyone cried because we knew we were going to miss each other. I'm closest to John Steven's mom, Lyn. We always hang around together. She's a nice lady."

Rudy Trias Jr. left the Philippines in 1970. His father, who was in the military, was assigned to Hawaii and brought his whole family with him. Rudy Jr. said he last visited the Philippines in 1983.

In 1986, Rudy met Nora Soriano. They now have three kids, Jasmine, Ronel and Noelani.

"My little girl sings, too," said Rudy. "But my boy is very athletic. He's into basketball, baseball and surfing."

He said Jasmine started singing when she was 3. She played the piano, listened to cassette tapes and imitated other singers. "She didn't get serious until she was 7 or 8 years old," he said. "I took her to piano lessons, hula dances and voice lessons."

Hectic schedule

"I want my children to learn how to speak Filipino," he added. "Jasmine started picking up recently. When she hears her mom and I talk in Filipino, she would say 'alam ko sinasabi ninyo' (I know what you're saying)."

Jasmine's hectic schedule includes press conferences and pictorials for McDonald's, Smart Telecommunications and Herbench, all of which she endorses.

Today, she will be in a show sponsored by McDonald's at the SM Megamall in Mandaluyong City.

On Monday, she will be in a motorcade from Bacoor to Tanza, Cavite. Tanza is the hometown of her father, Rudy Trias Jr. They are descendants of Gen. Mariano Trias, after whom another town in the province was named.

Jasmine will have a major concert at the Araneta Coliseum on Oct. 16. "You can expect me to sing McDonald's 'Love Ko To,' my Smart song, 'Kailangan Ko'y Ikaw,' as well as some songs I did in the tour, like Alicia Keys, Beyonce Knowles," Jasmine said. "I'm going to do duets with Erik Santos, Jay-R and Christian Bautista."

PROUD DAD Rudy Trias slept on the sidewalk with Jasmine while she was auditioning for "American Idol" and later became close to the parents of the other Idols.
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'Lounge @fter Sunset' with 'irresistible' DJ

"IRRESISTIBLE" is how British magazine i-D described German DJ Paul Beiler, also known as Ben Mono, and his cut-up sounds and innovative broken beat.

The renowned "break beat sharpshooter" will perform in various Makati clubs as part of the festivities called "Germany it's more than you think."

"Lounge @fter Sunset," featuring the irresistible Ben Mono, will open on Oct. 15 at Tianamen, Makati Avenue, starting at 8 p.m. Admission is free, made possible by Fairs and More and CouchLab Music.

The following night, Oct. 16, the German DJ will visit Future, the new lounge area of Halo located at Amorsolo, also in Makati, starting at 9 p.m. Entrance fee is P200, inclusive of a drink and a free Halo CD.

On his last night, Oct. 17, Ben Mono will be at Capones, located at Fraser Place, Forbes Tower, Vilamar Street, still in Makati, from 8 p.m. onward. He will bring not only music but also a buy-one-get-one free promo on local beers from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

A musician, DJ and sound engineer rolled into one, Ben Mono wants to take his audience to "the next step toward a new stylistic direction, toward combining vocals with clubby tracks and organic parts with synthetic parts."

A self-taught drummer, keyboard and bass player, Ben Mono had released two albums by the age of 23 entitled "Force & Paul" on Compost Records. He studied bass at the Conservatorium of Music in Munich and soon progressed to working with a wide range of local and regional musicians.

He released music and movie soundtracks on labels including Spinning Wheel (Space Clue, Druckwelle, Sonic Surfer) and Sonar Kollektiv (Space Clue remix for Mcatone).

"I'm trying not to cocoon myself too much," says Ben Mono.



DJ BEN Mono

"People pass by my studio every day, at least one person per day. The atmosphere changes all the time."

Ben Mono is a great fan of the Internet as a way to exchange ideas and software plug-ins. "In my case, my daily work of updating is based on the Internet."

The combination DJ-musician has a clear picture of what his music should be. "When I started making music, vocal parts were too expressive for me, too artificial. Now I try to have space in my music, to have the vocals in front, and still offer an amalgamation of broken beat and vocals. It's just a question of cleaning up the track as far as textures and frequencies go."

"Lounge @fter Sunset" forms part of the kaleidoscope of events for the month-long celebration of the German Month, organized by Fairs and More, in coordination with the German Embassy and ABS-CBN, Studio 23, ANC, Cinema One, Lifestyle Network and MYX.

For more information, visit www.germany-philippines.com or call Fairs and More at 845-1324.

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 - Bracket 1-b (Girls) 6 to 9 years old
 - Bracket 2-a (Boys) 10 to 12 years old
 - Bracket 2-b (Girls) 10 to 12 years old
- Prizes for each age group bracket:
 - 1st Place P 1,500 + trophy
 - 2nd Place P 1,000 + trophy
 - 3rd Place P 500 + trophy
 - 4th Place P 250 + medal
 - 5th to 10th Place P 150 + medal
- Individual entry fee for students: Metro Manila Elimination and Final Race P 30 Regional Elimination Races P 40
- All finishers will receive a Certificate of Participation.

3-K FUN RUN

- Open to everybody, regardless of age.
- Prizes for both male and female categories:
 - 1st Place P 2,500 + trophy
 - 2nd Place P 1,500 + trophy
 - 3rd Place P 1,000 + trophy
 - 4th Place P 500 + medal
 - 5th to 10th Place P 250 + medal
- Individual entry fee for students: Metro Manila Elimination and Final Race P 30 Regional Elimination Races P 40
- All finishers will receive a Certificate of Participation.

BIGGEST SCHOOL DELEGATION

- Contest is open to all participating schools.
- To qualify, a school should at least have 50 freshmen.
- Student runners should submit photocopies of their school IDs (front and back) for the current school year along with their entry forms.
- All entries from one school should be submitted at the same time.
- Prizes per regional delegation race:
 - 1st Place P 10,000 worth of sports equipment
 - 2nd Place P 7,000 worth of sports equipment
 - 3rd Place P 5,000 worth of sports equipment
- Winners will be determined based on the biggest number of freshmen within the given cut-off time.
- In case of a tie, the winning school will be determined according to the best time recorded.
- The Organizer's decision is final and non-appealable.

INTERSCHOOL RUNNING TEAM COMPETITION

- Contest is open to all participating schools.
- School team should have at least 25 runners in the race.
- All entries from one school should be submitted at the same time.
- Competing teams should only run in the 5-K Fun Run.
- The team may be composed of elementary, high school, or college runners.
- Winners will be determined through the average/aggregate time of the team's first 25 freshmen.
- Prizes per regional delegation race:
 - 1st Place P 1,000
 - 2nd Place P 4,000
 - 3rd Place P 3,000

CHEERING COMPETITION

- Contest is open to all schools with at least 30 student runners.
- Cheering team should at least have 20 members taking part in the run.
- Cheering messages should encourage the following:
 - boost the pride of the school's running delegation
 - communicate the importance of getting into sports
 - show how MILO gives the energy athletes need for sports
- Pyramid-building and other dangerous stunts will not be allowed.
- Performance should not exceed three minutes.
- The criteria for judging are as follows:
 - Fluidity of movements, precision, and smooth transition 25%
 - Formation (moved to floor works), coordination, and synchronization 25%
 - Style originality and creativity 25%
 - Showmanship, audience impact, costume, and props 25%

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GMA's programs and stars bag lion's share of Golden Screen Awards



GMA Network's programs and talents won the majority of awards from the first Entertainment Press Society's (EIPRESS) Golden Screen Awards for Entertainment TV. Bagging a total of 21 awards and citations, GMA also received a special citation for TV news coverage for its features on the 2004 Elections and the Angelo Osla Cruz abduction case. Funnyman Joey De Leon, who appears in a number of GMA shows, was also honored with the Helen Vela Lifetime Achievement Award.

Winning GMA programs were Extra Challenge (Outstanding Reality/Competition Program), Startalk (Outstanding Showbiz - Oriented Program), Bubble Gang (Outstanding Comedy Gag Show), Eat Bulaga (Outstanding Musical or Variety Program), Daddy Di Do Du (Outstanding Comedy Series), Magpakailanman/Bahangon Din Ang Kahapon (Outstanding Drama Special), Click (Outstanding Youth-Oriented Drama Series), and Celebrity Turns (Outstanding Celebrity Talk Show).



Paolo Bediones and Ethel Booba with Angelica Jones, Antonio Aquitana, Joyce Jimenez and Wendell Ramos for Extra Challenge "Welang Indianan" shot entirely in India.



Other awards garnered by GMA talents were Outstanding Actress in a Comedy Series (Rufa Mae Quinto - Idol Ko Si Kap), Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series (Vic Sotto - Daddy Di Do Du), Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama Series (Lorna Tolentino - Hanggang Karani), Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama Special (Sunshine Dizon - "Bahangon Din ang Kahapon"/Magpakailanman).



Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama Series (K Brosas - Idol Ko Si Kap), Outstanding Performance in a Comedy Gag Show (Michael V - Bubble Gang), Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama Series (Rita Avila - Ikaw Sa Puso Ko), Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series (Raymond Bagatsing - Narito Ang Puso Ko), Outstanding Director for a Comedy Series/Gag Show (Uro Q. Dela Cruz - Bubble Gang), Outstanding Male Host in a Musical/Variety Show (Ogie Alcasid - SOP), and Outstanding Celebrity Talk Show Host (Mel Tiangco - Partners with Mel Tiangco).

GMA Network profit up 15% to P1 billion in eight months

Media giant GMA Network, Inc. registered a net income of P1 billion for the first eight months of the year, 15% higher than its profit for the same period last year, which has kept the company on track of its yearend target despite an industry-wide slowdown.

The Network posted revenues of P4.89 billion, up 15% from last year's P4.27 billion for the same period.

Operating expenses jumped 21% to P2.34 billion due to increased production costs, salaries, advertising and promotion, amortization of program rights and other expenses in line with the company's efforts to



maintain its lead in the ratings game going into the last few months of the year.

Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (EBITDA) for the first eight months stood at P1.95 billion, 12% higher than last year's numbers.

While the company has managed to cover for its expenses and settle its loans through internally-generated funds, GMA Network Chairman, President and CEO Felipe Gozon said that the company will push through with the IPO by early next year. The Network hopes to generate around P9 billion when it sells its shares to the public.

The launching of GMA's International channel is also well underway, as the Network is finalizing agreements with distributors and is just waiting for facilities and equipment needed to launch and operate the channel.

GRAND KAPUSO VICTORY PARTY today on SOP

Celebrate with all the biggest Kapuso stars as GMA Network fires up your Sunday with the Grand Kapuso Victory Party on SOP. This is GMA's way of thanking the viewers as the network is now firmly in place as the number one station in the country today.

GMA-7's Grand Kapuso Victory Party on SOP celebrates all the good things that emerged in the third quarter of 2004. The grand party, which will be held simultaneously in Allw Theatre and Quirino Grandstand in Luneta, is a celebration of the Kapuso programs that continue to exceed expectations.

Led by the versatile hosts of SOP, Jaya, Ogie Alcasid, Jano Gibbs and Regine Velasquez, the Grand Kapuso Victory Party will also give recognition to the recipients of the first Golden Screen Awards where 21 out of 28 awards and citations were bagged by the Kapuso stars and shows.

SELECTED PROGRAMS OF ABS-CBN HAVE HIGHER RATINGS THAN THEIR COUNTERPART PROGRAMS ON GMA. THIS SITUATION DOES NOT HAPPEN IN NIelsen. DESPITE THIS, FROM SEPTEMBER 2004, ALMOST ALL THE PROGRAMS OF YOUR FAVORITE STATION ARE RATED NO. 1.

No. 1 tayong Sa Nielsen

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Jan-Sept 2004 Total Day Ratings

Mega Manila TV Households (6am - 12mn)

NIelsen MEDIA PHILS.

GMA 13
ABS-CBN 12

AGB PHILS.

GMA 17
ABS-CBN 16

TOP 15 DAYTIME PROGRAMS (6am-6pm)

Mega Manila Households (September 2004)

NIelsen MEDIA PHILS.

RANK	PROGRAM	CHANNEL	Rating (%)
1.	HUNTER X HUNTER	GMA	21.4
2.	SLAMDUNK RETURNS	GMA	20.1
3.	EAT BULAGA (S)	GMA	19.0
4.	COWBOY BEBOP	GMA	17.6
5.	EAT BULAGA (M-F)	GMA	17.3
6.	DRAGONBALL GT	GMA	17.0
7.	ONE PIECE	GMA	16.8
8.	IRENE (M-S)	GMA	16.7
9.	IKAW SA PUSO KO	GMA	16.2
10.	WAG KUKURAP	GMA	16.0
11.	TWIN SISTERS	GMA	14.9
12.	DAISY SIETE	GMA	14.3
13.	JOYRIDE	GMA	13.2
14.	WISH KO LANG	GMA	13.2
15.	NONINO	ABS	12.9

AGB PHILS.

RANK	PROGRAM	CHANNEL	Rating (%)
1.	HUNTER X HUNTER	GMA	25.3
2.	IRENE (M-S)	GMA	24.1
3.	SLAM DUNK	GMA	23.0
4.	EAT...BULAGA (M-S)	GMA	21.4
5.	COWBOY BEBOP	GMA	19.6
6.	ONE PIECE	GMA	19.5
7.	DRAGONBALL GT	GMA	18.9
8.	WAG KUKURAP	GMA	17.9
9.	IKAW SA PUSO KO	GMA	17.8
10.	SGO RELOAD OK AKOI	ABS	17.8
11.	KAPAMILYA CINEMA	ABS	17.4
12.	DAISY BIYETE	GMA	17.2
13.	THE BUZZ	ABS	17.0
14.	WISH KO LANG	GMA	16.9
15.	S-FILES	GMA	16.5

TOP 15 PRIMETIME

Mega Manila Households

NIelsen MEDIA PHILS.

RANK	PROGRAM	CHANNEL	Rating (%)
1.	EXTRA CHALLENGE (M-F)	GMA	20.5
2.	MULAWIN	GMA	20.4
3.	FOREVER IN MY HEART	GMA	20.1
4.	EXTRA CHALLENGE (S)	GMA	20.0
5.	BASTAT KASAMA KITA	ABS	19.9
6.	IMBESTIGADOR	GMA	19.8
7.	24 ORAS	GMA	19.4
8.	BITOY'S FUNNIEST VIDEOS	GMA	19.1
9.	HIRAM	ABS	19.0
10.	MARINA	ABS	19.0
11.	TE AMO	GMA	19.0
12.	IT MIGHT BE YOU	ABS	18.7
13.	ALL STAR KI	GMA	18.8
14.	MARINARA	GMA	18.4
15.	VICTIM UNDERCOVER (M-F)	ABS	18.0

GMA

Maraming Salamat Po sa inyong



SOP's Janine Glibo, Regine Velasquez, Jaya and Ogie Alcasid

Furthermore, the once-in-a-lifetime event will highlight the grand fans day of the first telefantasy, Mulawin. It will also launch the second wave of Starstruck and unleash three-month long schedule of breathtaking surprises of SOP in SOP Three-let! These are Octoburst, Super November and Decem-best, the last quarter of 2004 that offers the grandest gathering of stars on one stage.

Witness the get-together of GMA 7 personalities in this rare grand event, the Grand Kapuso Victory Party that surely begins another season of delivering to the viewers genuine quality entertainment.

New Quality Programs from GMA



After clinching the coveted No.1 spot as the country's leading broadcast station, GMA Network is now more determined to continue giving superior quality programming to its millions of viewers - the loyal Kapuso from whom the network derives the inspiration to create innovative programs and continue touching the hearts of each and every Filipino.

Grateful for the unfaltering support from viewers who fueled the network's drive to the top, GMA has been offering new shows that not only elicit positive feedback but also widen the station's viewership base. Following the breakthrough "tele-fantasy" Mulawin, which

Instantly soared in viewership ratings and conquered its primetime slot, GMA also heeded the public clamor for a soap opera featuring the country's most popular singer-actress and Asia's Songbird Regine Velasquez with the launch of the romantic series Forever in My Heart. In this much talked-about romance drama, Velasquez co-stars with two of the Philippines' bankable leading men: Richard Gomez and Ariel Rivera.

In its afternoon block, GMA also offers a fresh break from the streak of soap operas with the launch of its newest fantasy series Leya, Ang Pinakamagandang Babae sa Ilalim ng Lupa, which stars Oyo Boy Sotto and Nadine Samonte. Meanwhile, the network also introduced an innovative sitcom which reflects the reality in the Pinoy extended family - Bahay Mo Ba 'To, starring Tessie Tomas and Ronaldo Valdez who play feuding siblings, incessantly fighting over their ancestral home.

And there's more to watch out for as GMA prepares to launch a host of new shows which will surely make being a Kapuso viewer worthwhile. There's the grand comeback of the phenomenal Starstruck, the original reality-based artist search which became a national mania.

There will also be two new chinovelas featuring heart-moving stories and the most sought-after Taiwanese stars: Snow Angel, a touching story of two brothers' quest to rediscover one another and prove themselves worthy of a woman's love; and Mars God, the newest and much-anticipated chinovela starring Asian superstars Vic Zhou and Barbie Xu.



Boum-bats. Songbird Regine Velasquez with Ariel Rivera and Richard Gomez portray star-crossed lovers in Forever in My Heart, GMA's latest primetime drama offering.



SNOW ANGEL. The No. 1 Chinovela in Taiwan.



Sibling rivalry. Veteran comedians Tessie Tomas as Baby Mulingtapa-Benot and Ronaldo Valdez as Nene Mulingtapa in the smash hit comedy, Bahay Mo Ba 'To?

True to its commitment to pursue creativity and innovation, GMA is starting yet another trend in television programming with NAKSI - a fun mix of magic, illusions and reality TV featuring comedians Benjie Paras and Bearwin Melillo, with extraordinary illusionist Erik Mana.



NAKSI hosts Bearwin Melillo and Benjie Paras

GMA also offers more human interest stories with Kapuso Mo, Jessica Soho, a special weekly hosted by the country's most awarded broadcast journalist Jessica Soho. With its innovative lineup of new shows, GMA reinforces its obligation to deliver quality programs to every Filipino home.



GMA NETWORK gains big headway in September ratings

GMA Network has proven that it truly is No. 1, as it led in the ratings game in Mega Manila for the month of September, having consistently done so since January 2004, according to ratings provider Nielsen Media Phils.



GMA beat its rival network with considerable margins in the Channel Ratings by Daypart for Mega Manila provided by Nielsen Media (Sept. 2004). It is consistently in the lead—morning, afternoon, and evening, for a Total Day Rating of 15% vs. the rival's 11%.

In particular, GMA's primetime block is experiencing an all-time high in the ratings game in Mega Manila as it led with 25% vs. the rival's 20% in the Channel Ratings for Mega Manila in Sept. 2004 provided by Nielsen Media.

(Six) of its shows belong in the Top Ten Overall for September.

VE UNUSUALLY HIGHER CABLE RATINGS
GRAMS IN GMA ON AGB PHILS.
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004, FROM SIGN-ON TO SIGN-OFF,
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Kapuso!

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September 2004 Total Day Ratings*

Mega Manila TV Households (8am - 12mn)

NIELSEN MEDIA PHILS.

GMA 15
ABS-CBN 11

AGB PHILS.

GMA 18
ABS-CBN 16

PROGRAMS (8pm-10pm)

holds (September 2004)

AGB PHILS

RANK	PROGRAM	CHANNEL	Rating (%)
1	BASTA'N KASAMA KITA	ABS	38.8
2	EXTRACHALLENGE (M-F)	GMA	35.4
3	MULAWIN	GMA	35.3
4	MARINA	ABS	34.9
5	HIRAM	ABS	34.1
6	IT MIGHT BE YOU	ABS	31.7
7	INVESTIGADOR	GMA	30.4
8	VICTIM UNDERCOVER (M-F)	ABS	30.4
9	BITOY'S FUNNIEST VIDEOS	GMA	30.2
10	FOREVER IN MY HEART	GMA	29.9
11	24 ORAS	GMA	28.8
12	TV PATROL (M-F)	ABS	27.8
13	TE AMO	GMA	26.9
14	UNDERCOVER (M-S)	ABS	26.2
15	ALL STAR KI	GMA	24.1

* Undercover replaced Victim Undercover (Mon-Fri) starting September 13

TOP 10 LATE NIGHT PROGRAMS

Mega Manila Households (September 2004)

NIELSEN MEDIA PHILS

RANK	PROGRAM	CHANNEL	Rating (%)
1	BAKSI	GMA	7.8
2	EMERGENCY	GMA	8.2
3	INSIDER	ABS	8.4
4	JESSICA SOHO REPORTS	GMA	8.8
5	I-WITNESS	GMA	8.0
6	PRIVATE I	ABS	4.4
7	DEBATE	GMA	3.7
8	PIPOL	ABS	3.8
9	SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT	ABS	3.8
10	REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK	GMA	3.6

AGB PHILS

RANK	PROGRAM	CHANNEL	Rating (%)
1	BAKSI	GMA	10.8
2	INSIDER	ABS	9.2
3	EMERGENCY	GMA	8.8
4	JESSICA SOHO REPORTS	GMA	8.5
5	I-WITNESS	GMA	7.4
6	REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK	GMA	7.0
7	THE CORRESPONDENTS	ABS	6.9
8	PRIVATE I	ABS	6.6
9	SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT	ABS	6.3
10	PIPOL	ABS	6.1



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gutierrezcherry pie
picacheallan
paulepinky
amador

oyo boy sotto nadine samonte

forever my love

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Story and Screenplay GLENN WARDZLO and JOVEN TAN Editor JESS NAVARRO Production Designer RENE CLARIDO Cinematographer ROMY WITUG Associate Producer EAP CALMEPIN Executive Producer LILY MONTEVERDE Directed by JOVEN TAN

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JOSHUA Payne

Singer,
writer
was
born
deafSINGER-SONGWRI-
TER Joshua Payne
enters the music
world with his debut
album, "Your Love,
My Home," a collec-
tion of love songs.Payne is flying to
Manila in November
to promote his al-
bum.Blessed with a
classically-trained
voice, Payne was
born almost com-
pletely deaf to musi-
cally untrained par-
ents. His mom is a
trained classical
singer, while his dad
is a high school choir
director.Payne as a baby
had an operation
that restored most of
his hearing. To reha-
bilitate his hearing
completely, his par-
ents would sit him
down in front of the
stereo and play ev-
erything, from
James Taylor to
Prokofiev.The album is
Payne's first-time
collaboration with
legendary and mul-
tiple Grammy-
award winning pro-
ducer-songwriter
Michael Omartian,
who has produced
25 No. 1 hit songs
with artists such as
Christopher Cross,
Peter Cetera, Amy
Grant, Donna Sum-
mer and Rod Stew-
art."Your Love, My
Home" features the
title track, a soaring
anthem whose last
line, "I will make
your love my home,"
has the ring of a wed-
ding vow."Remember Yes-
terday" contrasts the
fleeting nature of a
relationship with the
transformative pow-
er of the love awak-
ens."Nature" is a glow-
ing, rousing hymn to
the wonder of nature
seen through the
eyes of a child."The Moon" is a
song about falling in
love, with an en-
chanting, old-fash-
ioned feeling. It
sparkles in a spare
quartet arrangement
with guitar."City Song" is a
pop-rock drama
about a rare kind of
heartbreak, while
"My World" is a gen-
tle lullaby that buoys
up to the heart melt-
ing plea, "Don't come
around here making
memories, unless
you promise me you
will stay.""Your Love, My
Home" is distributed
by MCA Music Inc., a
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pany.It is available at
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stores.

'Bad boy' of TV plays 'ambassador of goodwill'

By Nini Valera

COMEDIAN Willie Revillame will take a serious turn as an "ambassador" of goodwill to Japan to address the problem of Filipinos staying there illegally.

Willie told INQUIRER Entertainment last Friday that the Japan Filipino Overseas Contract Workers Foundation has tapped him to be the voice of reason to appeal to Filipinos staying illegally in Japan to return home before the Dec. 2 deadline the Japanese government has set for them to go back home.

The comedian will leave for Japan next week. He is scheduled to visit the Philippine Embassy in Tokyo on Oct. 14.

"I am only being paid a stipend to do this," Willie claimed. "I would have wanted to charge so that I would have some money, but the JPOC could not afford to pay me. Eventually, I realized that this is one chance I must take to do something good for our fellow Filipinos in Japan. I know they are there because of poverty. But they have been breaking the rules of the Japanese government by staying there illegally."

His own money

JPOC is a non-government organization run by former entertainer Jocelyn Anas. It has embraced the cause of the illegal Filipinos in Japan and has embarked on this information campaign to convince them that the best thing they could do for themselves is to return home by Dec. 2, according to Anas.

As JPOC's spokesperson, Willie will make the rounds of the bars and other entertainment centers in the land of the rising yen, where most illegal aliens are known to be working. He will do a mini-show to attract his fellow Filipinos, and then say his spiel encouraging them to come home.

It would be easy for Willie to mount a show, even an un-scripted gig that would take him to at least three venues in one night. But he said this was a "hardship post," considering the distance he has to travel, from one club to another and the enormous expense he has to shoulder using his token fee.

"To travel by magnetic train, which is faster than the bullet train, I have to spend \$200," he said. "My budget is minimal, and I might have to spend my own money to do the job."

But he claimed he did not mind doing it. "I feel sorry for them, especially if they have to undergo the humiliation of being jailed and handcuffed and escorted to the plane that would fly them back here," he said of the illegal Filipinos in Japan.

Third biggest group

He reported that at least 400,000 Filipinos are staying in Japan illegally. The number, he pointed out, could double or triple.

"What about those Filipinos that we don't know about? I am sure there are more Filipinos hiding from the immigration officials of Japan," he said.

But Filipinos are only the third largest group of illegal aliens in Japan, according to Willie, who seems to have become an expert on the issue. Korea has the biggest number of nationals staying illegally in Japan, Willie said. The Koreans are followed by the Chinese, he said.

"We should follow the rules," Willie said. "What happened was, for the past few years the Japanese government had offered amnesty to illegal aliens in Japan. Under the amnesty, they must surface and voluntarily return to their country of origin. Unfortunately, not a single Filipino has availed himself of this chance."

Come Dec. 2, the Japanese government will show no mercy to the illegal residents, said Willie.

P1.5-million fine

"Under the Japanese immigration law, which has been amended, they must leave Japan by Dec. 2," he said. "It is not just a matter of boarding a plane and returning to Manila. They will be arrested and thrown in jail. If they are in jail, they have to pay a fine of at least P1.5 million. They will also be handcuffed and escorted to the plane that would take them back to Manila."

The fine, according to Willie, could go higher than P1.5 million, depending on how long the alien has been staying in Japan illegally.

More than suffering the legal repercussions, illegal aliens in Japan are open to abuse from unscrupulous employers, Willie explained.

"I have heard of Filipino women forced into prostitution, and who think they don't have any legal recourse because they are there illegally," he said. "There are some who have died or disappeared and have been presumed dead. But we don't really know what happened to them."

"They are not protected by the law," he added. "They only have themselves to rely on. No one can really depend on the kindness of strangers."

Willie said he asked the people behind JPOC why they chose him to be their ambassador of goodwill. "They told me that my show, 'Willingly Yours,' decided for them that I was the right person for the job."

"They said my personality makes the masses relate to me and even trust me," the comedian added.

No bitterness

He is quite popular among the Filipinos in Japan, which his show had reached while it was still running on television. He also released an album from Universal Records, including the song "Pito-Pito," which became a

Comedian goes to Japan to convince illegal Filipinos to go back home

hit and was used by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as her campaign jingle during the May elections.

Being a perpetual survivor of show biz intrigues also helped Willie boost his image.

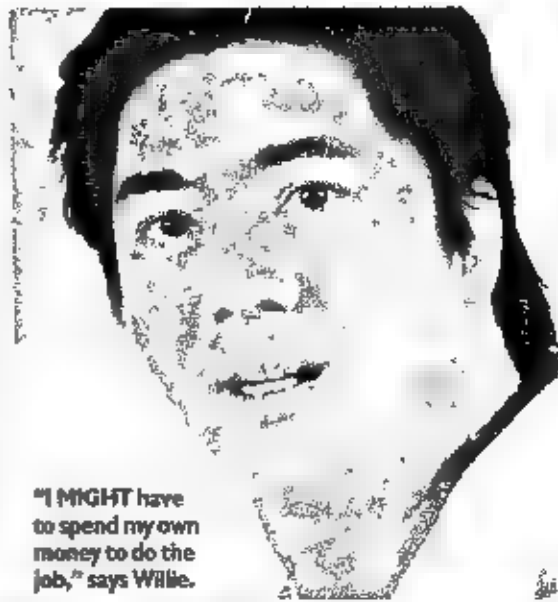
"I harbor no bitterness against ABS-CBN," said Willie, referring to how he was removed from the noontime show "Masayang Tanghali Bayan" when it was given a new format. "I still appear as a guest in their shows."

"In fact, (ABS-CBN president) Gabby

Lopez, after I guested in the birthday show of Korina (Sanchez), approached me and commented that it was good I still went there. I told him there was no ill will, and that I'm grateful to the network for the opportunity for work. I was able to pay off my house and my cars because of my work there. So no bad blood, no hard feelings."

But for his mission to Japan, the paycheck would only be the satisfaction of helping less fortunate Filipinos.

"That is priceless," he said.



"I MIGHT have to spend my own money to do the job," says Willie.

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South Border	May Ag- big Pa Kay	3 451
John Maple ga	Nas- ng Ang Puso Ko	3 452
John Maple ga	Ang Nigang Ay Nag	3 453
John Maple ga	Kaw Nge	3 454
Dongdong Avanzado	Yah	3 455
Sipoi	It's Only A Woman	101458

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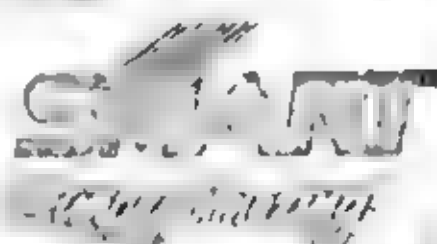
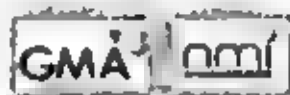
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ENTERTAINMENT

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Editor Louie C. Camino



Cindy 'lied, hid, denied' to protect Echo



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"I HATE lying," says Cindy Kurleto (left). "I would feel dirty after lying. Echo would tell me that after three months, I wouldn't have to lie. Three months became six months and six months became a year," while talent managers pushed his love team with Kristine Hermosa (right).

By Jocelyn Valle
Contributor

CINDY Kurleto said she had to "hide, lie and deny" her relationship with Jericho Rosales for a year to protect his love team with Kristine Hermosa.

Cindy, Filipino-Austrian commercial model, actress and ex-girlfriend of Jericho, said she also lost millions of pesos in endorsement contracts because he was not allowed to appear with her in commercials.

She couldn't even attend Jericho's birthday party last year because talent managers said she couldn't be in the same party with Kristine, her boyfriend's partner in the movies, according to Cindy.

"To be Echo's girlfriend means it's OK for everyone to kick your ass even though they know that you don't have any fault," Cindy said during last Friday's press conference for her instructional VCD, "Curves."

Echo—Jericho's nickname—and Cindy met on the set of the movie "Ngayong Nandito Ka," shown in February 2003. He was the lead star along with his love team partner Kristine Hermosa, and Cindy played the other woman in the story. As fate would have it, the leading man and the other woman fell for each other.

The threat

Last Friday, Cindy clarified that Jericho and Kristine were no longer together when she and Echo became an item. "Kristine's sister and even Jericho himself have stated that fact," she said.

But all along, Cindy said, she was painted as the threat to the relationship of Jericho and Kristine—who shot to fame as lovers Angelo and Yna in the defunct soap opera, "Pangako sa 'Yo.'" Aside from "Ngayong Nandito Ka," Echo and Kristine also starred in the hit movies "Forevermore" and "Trap."

"When I entered the picture, I knew exactly what my part was and I kept it," said Cindy. "I was hiding, lying and denying. And I hate lying. I would feel dirty after lying. He'd tell me that after three months, I wouldn't have to lie. Three months became six months and six months became a year. He was protected by Talent Center."

Cindy said ABS-CBN's Talent Center, which manages the careers of the network's talents like Jericho and Kristine, didn't want her to be with Jericho.

"When I entered ABS-CBN (as one of the hosts of the noon-time TV show 'MTB'), there were offers to do movies and movies, but after they learned about me and Echo, the offers were all gone. The bosses would call him for one-on-one meetings and the topic was, yeah, 'Don't be with that girl.' And I wouldn't find Echo after those meetings and if I'd find him, he'd often been crying. It wasn't easy for the two of us."

Sacrifices

Cindy said she sacrificed a lot to keep the relationship together. When Jericho celebrated his birthday last year, she conceptualized a theme party for him, she said. She asked her father, her friends who were visiting from Vienna, and her Filipino friends to dress up in '50s fashion for Jericho's party, but they were discouraged from going to the party, she said.

"Suddenly there was a call from Echo," she recounted. "He had asked to Mr. M (Johnny Manahan), who said it wasn't possible."

CINDY: A42

"House of Flying Daggers,"
martial arts and
visual poetry:
Viewfinder /A43

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5 THE PUNISHER 12:50, 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30	6 WIMBLEDON 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00	7 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
8 FENG SHUI 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00	9 RESIDENT EVIL 2 10:45, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00	10 RAISING HELEN 11:50, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00

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5 THE PUNISHER 11:05, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:40	6 FENG SHUI 10:35, 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50	7 RESIDENT EVIL 2 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50	

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3 FENG SHUI	3 SHARK TALE	3 SHARK TALE
4 SHARK TALE	4 JANDARA	4 FENG SHUI
5 THE PUNISHER	5 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	5 THE PUNISHER
6 RESIDENT EVIL 2	6 SECRET WINDOW	6 THE NOTEBOOK
7 RAISING HELEN	7 GODSEND	7 OPEN WATER
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2 RESIDENT EVIL 2	2 13 GOING ON 30	2 SHARK TALE
3 SECRETARY	3 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	3 JANDARA
4 SHARK TALE	4 EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING	4 13 GOING ON 30
5 FENG SHUI	5 THE NOTEBOOK	5 THE BEGINNING
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2 WIMBLEDON	2 SHARK TALE	2 WIMBLEDON	6 SHARK TALE	2 OPEN WATER
3 PUNISHER	3 OPEN WATER	3 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	7 OPEN WATER	3 SAVED
4 RESIDENT EVIL APOCALYPSE	4 FENG SHUI	4 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY	8 SHARK TALE	4 RESIDENT EVIL APOCALYPSE
5 OPEN WATER		5 SHARK TALE	9 SHARK TALE	5 13 GOING ON 30

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Lov'eMa!!

A42

Cindy 'lied, hid ...

From page A41

ble for Kristine and Cindy to be in the same party where there would be cameras. I had to tell my father and my best friends that I couldn't go to the party of my own boyfriend."

Cindy claimed that Talent Center rejected offers for her and Jericho to endorse products. She said Jericho was supposed to be with her in the ads for Mendrez, a shoe line; Piolo Pascual took his place. She said she and Jericho were supposed to endorse San Miguel; instead, he pitched for Pepsi.

Cindy said she lost millions in talent fees because Talent Center wouldn't let Jericho appear with her in commercials.

"They've been telling Echo that if he's not in a love team, he wouldn't be as successful," said Cindy. "I said, 'No, you'll be more successful in the long run because people will see you as your own person.' Now his career is up after he left the (Jericho-Kristine) love team."

Reconciliation?

When Jericho and Kristine's second soap opera, "Sana'y Wala nang Wakas," wrapped up a few months ago, they announced that they were temporarily shelving their love team. Jericho is in the new Lorraine Guillen film, "Santa-Santita" and in "Lihim," which also stars Claudine Barretto and Diether Ocampo, who is now Kristine's boyfriend.

Cindy said she has started talking about Jericho and their relationship because Jericho himself has been vocal about her lately. There have been reports of Jericho's visits to the set of the GMA 7 soap opera, "Forever In My Heart," where Cindy is a mainstay, and that he is trying to win her back.

She said she and Jericho were together for a year and four months and broke up in March. But they remain friends, and he has even become her acting coach, she said, helping her with her Filipino lines in the soap.

German is Cindy's first language. She studied hotel and restaurant management but her real passion is dancing, she said. Her "Curves" video is a fusion of aerobics and sensual dancing.

Cindy made it clear that a reconciliation with Jericho is still up in the air. "Of course, I still love him," she maintained. "But it's not fair that (the sacrifices) all rested on my shoulder. My dad said, 'I know you love him so much but think it over because if he doesn't stand up for you now, he might not stand up for you ever.' He said that a man who can't stand up for his girl is not a man."

Beguiling combination of martial arts and visual poetry

ZHANG Yimou's "House of Flying Daggers" is an exciting, beguiling combination of martial arts and visual poetry. To be sure, Chinese martial arts filmmakers have been combining these elements for decades now, but Zhang Yimou takes the genre to even greater heights.

VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

For instance, we've already seen fight scenes set in bamboo groves, with the combatants "walking" on the tops of bamboo poles and flying through the air with the greatest of ease. But the bamboo-grove fight scene in "Flying Daggers" is unusually breathtaking, beautiful and full of unexpected flourishes and other visual surprises.

Happily, this visual and martial inventiveness doesn't call excessive attention to itself, because the director harmonizes it with a similarly eventful emotional progression.

In the film, the blind rebel played by Zhang Ziyi is adored by two men who appear to be allies in a fight against her group's forces. Their love is so fierce that it prompts them to break the strongest of alliances, and indeed to sacrifice even their lives on the smoldering altar of their contentious passions.

The film's overwhelmingly passionate approach and treatment sometimes even makes it ignore the rules of logic and time. In one particularly radical sequence, a fight scene takes so long that an autumn landscape soon turns wintry-white.

This doesn't happen in "real" life, but in the movie's passionate super-reality, it can, and does.

Still, we must observe that some sequences take too long to make their symbolic point, so a number of viewers may get impatient with all of this languorous artistry.

On the whole, however, "Flying Daggers" sustains viewers' interest with its charged and yet subtle storytelling, which is enhanced even further by Zhang Ziyi's luminous performance.

Her male co-stars, Andy Lau and Takeshi Kaneshiro, do their damndest to get viewers to pay them some mind, but they're clearly no match for their leading lady's rare combination of beauty, acting talent and martial arts prowess.

In her, film master Zhang Yimou has found his new and most deserving cinematic muse.

Feedback

FROM Paul R. Mortel of Marlana City: "I'm just wondering why most of our TV newscasters are *gigi na gigil* when reporting the news, *at para silang galit na galit*—unlike their US counterparts, *na cool lang*."

NUT: This is obviously in keeping with local TV newscasters' effort to "punch up" the news, to make it more "exciting." The device also has its roots in the news on radio, which is reported in an even more "hyper" manner.

The excuse there is, hat, since radio has no visuals, the verbal aspect has to be made to sound more dynamic and exciting. When it's carried over to television, the punching up is much too much.

Like you, we're unhappy about this, because the news is supposed to be presented as objectively as possible, so viewers can analyze and evaluate it with dispassion. But, when newscasters put up such a flippant, livid show, objectivity flies out of the TV screen.

Another relevant aspect to this discussion is the small, intimate and thus "cool" nature of the TV medium. Newscasters' overwrought reporting style flies in the face of this and distends the TV medium's scope, thus preventing it from doing what it does best—one-on-one reportage that takes the viewers deep into the untrammeled heart of the matter.

Ogie's new album

OGIE Alcasid will launch his new album, "I Am a Singer" on Channel 7's "SOP Rules" this noon. He will also make a special live appearance at Market! Market! at Bonifacio Global City. In his new album, Ogie does all of the singing and none of the songwriting. The cuts are penned by the likes of Wency Cornejo, Velnnee Saturno, Arnold Reyes and Archie CastiLo.

'Cassini' replay

TODAY at 9 a.m., Discovery Channel replays its one-hour special, "Cassini: Rendezvous with the Ringed Planet."

Last June 30, NASA's spaceship Cassini entered orbit around Saturn, beginning a four-year mission to investigate the huge, mysterious planet. The spacecraft traveled seven years and covered more than two billion miles

to reach its destination.

This December, Cassini's passenger,

the probe Huygens, is scheduled to enter the atmosphere of Saturn's moon Ti-

tan—the first man-made object to drop into the surface of an extraterrestrial

moon. The "Cassini" special profiles this groundbreaking mission.

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PUNISHER R13 2:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00	RESIDENT EVIL 2-R13 12:35, 5:15, 8:10 RAISING HELEN-GP 2:55, 7:35	WIMBLEDON PG13 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 10:00

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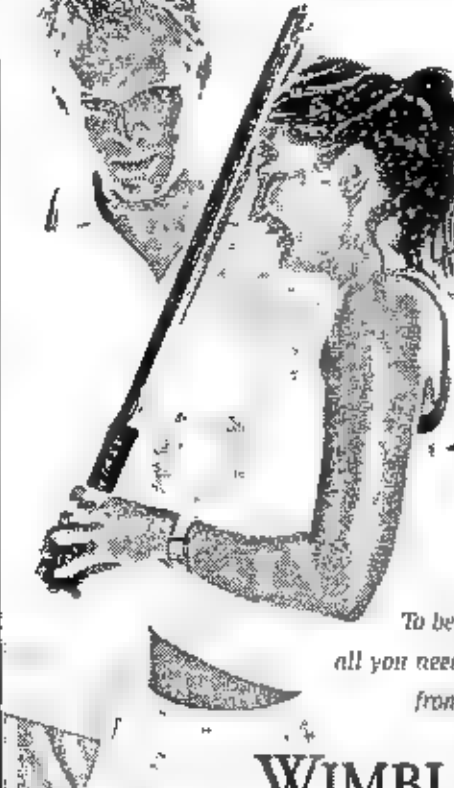
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A4 **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2004**

Depp plays an addict

LOS ANGELES—Hollywood heartthrob Johnny Depp is to produce and star in a movie version of the novel "Shantaram," the story of an Australian heroin addict and jailbird, Daily Variety said Thursday.

In one of the biggest film rights deals of the year, Warner Bros. Studios and several partners acquired the rights from Gregory David Roberts for \$2 million and immediately signed Depp to lead the cast.

"Shantaram" depicts the adventures of a drug addict who is convicted of robbery in Australia but escapes jail and flees to India where he reinvents himself as a doctor in the slums of Bombay.

He also relaunched his criminal career, dabbling in counterfeiting, smuggling and gunrunning in a series of adventures that led him to the wilds of Afghanistan.

The 1,000-page book, first published last year, was the first that Roberts has written and is based on his own experiences.

The novel is being hailed in Hollywood as a new "Papillon," the 1969 true-life prison adventures on Devil's Island, off Guyana, of author Henri Charriere that was also turned into a movie blockbuster starring Steve McQueen and Dustin Hoffman.

Among those involved in the movie rights deal are producer Brad Grey, Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston's production partner, and Inicia Entertainment.

The reluctant star Depp, 40, is shooting a remake of the film version of Roald Dahl's children's story "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" in Britain.

AFP

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THE PUNISHER

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Maricar de Mesa sings!

THE SONG "Ngayong Wala Ka Na" brings to mind divas such as Jessa Zaragoza and Roselle Nava. But the voice actually belongs to sexy star Maricar de Mesa.

SHOW STOPPER

To those who have been following Maricar's career as early as her "That's Entertainment" days, it would come as no surprise that she is now making her mark as a singer.

X Zone Entertainment is proud to launch "Moments," Maricar de Mesa's first ever album.

It contains two songs, "Ngayong Wala Ka Na" and "Bumalik Ka Lang Ba," and also includes the music video of "Ngayong Wala Ka Na."

"When we were recording the songs, it was a very emotional time for me because I had just ended a relationship," Maricar says.

"Moments" is available at all record bars and is exclusively distributed by Ivory Music and Video.



MARICAR de Mesa. Heartbroken while recording

DO YOU KNOW...

Sexy star Aubrey Miles and her constant dare Troy Montero were spotted buying movie tickets at the Power Plant Mall in Rockwell in Makati on a recent Sunday night. Seen watching "Bourne Supremacy" also at the Power Plant that same night were actress Tanya Garcia and her boyfriend, businessman Alex Lopez.

'Reigning Still'



SONGBIRD Regine Velasquez holds a concert on Oct. 30 in Sta. Cruz, Laguna. She is recording a new album of revivals from Viva Records. She stars in GMA 7's newest soap opera with Richard Gomez and Ariel Rivera, "Forever in my Heart." And on Dec. 3 and 4, she will have her first major concert in four years, "Reigning Still," at the Araneta Coliseum, with concept and direction by Regine herself, musical direction by Raul Mitra and guests Sarah Geronimo, Rachelle Ann Go, Sheryn Regis and Kyla. Tickets to "Reigning Still" are available at Ticketnet, 911-5555.

'Winston in Concert' joins Maskara Festival

THE WINSTON in Concert National Tour joins the celebration of the Maskara Festival in Bacolod City in Negros Occidental with a live show featuring the Prime Council band at the Quorum Disco and KTV in the city on Saturday, Oct. 16.

The Prime Council concert, sponsored by Winston in cooperation with Lone Star Beer, spotlights their lead vocalists, Jed Madela and Gail Bianco.

Only those 18 years and above will be admitted to

the Quorum show.

Prizes and surprises are in store for partygoers. There will be games and a product sampling of Winston, the spirit of the USA.

On Oct. 22, a Friday, Winston in Concert will be back in Manila with "Balik-Banda Pinoy Idols" at J. Nakpil corner Jorge Bocobo streets in Malate.

The concert stars Bamboo, Mongols and 6Cycle Band.

Free concert launches inspirational book

CATHOLIC lay preacher Bo Sanchez preaches with humor and presents the Gospel, with simplicity. He is a much sought-after speaker and retreat master, and his inspirational books and magazine, Kerygma, are popular.

Bo has traveled all over the world to minister to Filipinos and foreigners alike. The Kerygma Feast, a Mass and worship event held every first Sunday of the month at Teatro Aguinaldo, is always packed.

Bo's latest book, "Your Past Does Not Define Your Future," will be launched in "Kerygma Live!" on Oct. 17 at the Ultra in Pasig City, from 2

p.m. to 8 p.m.

Other spiritual books from Shepherd's Voice Publications, like "Dachau," "Sabbath" and "Companion 2003," will also be launched.

"Kerygma Live!" will start with a Mass and a powerful talk by Bo Sanchez, worshiped by Arin Gogna, Russa Singson, Alvin Barcelona, Obet Cabralis, and Adrian Panganiban, followed by a concert with Nyoy Volante and Mannos, Karylle, Crisel Consunji and others.

"Kerygma Live" is a free concert, open to everyone who needs God's blessings. For inquiries, call 411 7874 to 78.



AUTHOR BO Sanchez (foreground) with Nyoy Volante and Karylle

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Program keywords

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'Nip/Tuck,' disturbing series on plastic surgery, now on video

"NIP/TUCK," the top-rated drama series that has captivated Filipino cable audiences on ETC Channel, is now on video, exclusively distributed by Warner Home Video Philippines.

The remarkable and disturbing TV drama series centers around two successful plastic surgeons who own a South Florida clinic. Their lives get enmeshed in the lives of their patients, in a series with episodes full of vanity, sizzling drama, dark humor and emotional cliffhangers.

Created and produced by Ryan Murphy for FX, it features longtime friends Dr. Sean McNamara (Dylan Walsh) and Dr. Christian Troy (Julian McMahon). Sean is trying to keep his family together and patch up the rocky road with his wife, Julia (Joely Richardson). Christian is a typical self-destructive playboy who uses his charm to bring in potential candidates and conducts shady business deals. While Sean takes his job seriously, he often has to fix Christian's mistakes.

In the middle of it all is a graphic depiction of modern-day plastic surgery such as liposuction, facelift, breast implants, nose lifts—vanity procedures that Filipinos gossip about and dream of.

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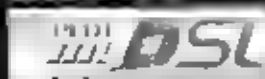
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Voting Period:

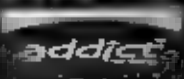
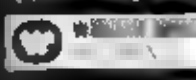
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Movie Wallpapers



MMS BS10



MMS BS9



MMS GARFIELD2



MMS GARFIELD1



MMS (ROBOT)



MMS (ROBOT)



MMS MEADY



MMS NAARON



MMS ANGELINA



MMS JAW



MMS HALLE3



MMS BRAD



MMS GARNER



MMS LOUNE



MMS SINGELAR



MMS OBLOOM



MMS BEAS



MMS CAMERON



MMS JHARTNET



MMS CHERON

Movie Ringtones

Title
Love Yourself from "B Mike"
How Do I Live from "Can Air"
Got to Believe in Magic from "Zapped"
I Don't Wanna Miss A Thing from "Armageddon"
Can't Fight The Moonlight from "Coyote Ugly"
Lady Marmalade from "Moulin Rouge"
Spider-man theme from "Spider-man"
City from "A Walk to Remember"
Every Little Thing She Does is Magic from "The Wedding Singer"
Son of a Preacher Man from "Pulp Fiction"
Ain't No Mountain High Enough from "Sister Act"
Rocky from "Rocky"
Misirlou from "Pulp Fiction"
Friday I'm in Love from "50 First Dates"
Boys from "Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery"

Movie keyword
TONE LOSEYOUR
TONE HOWDOILIVE
TONE IMAGIC
TONE MISATING
TONE LANTIFF
TONE MARMALADE
TONE SPIDERMAN
TONE CITY
TONE LITTLETHING
TONE SONOFA
TONE AINTNO
TONE ROCKY
TONE MISIRLOU
TONE FRIDAYIN
TONE BOYS

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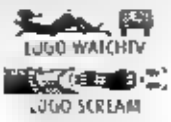
Logos



LOGO STARKA!



LOGO SPIDERSTAR



LOGO WATCHTV



LOGO MEANGIRLS



LOGO ANGEL



LOGO BRO BOY



LOGO FISH SHARKA



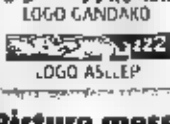
LOGO ASTIG



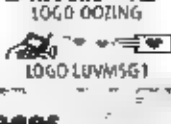
LOGO ROBOT



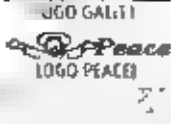
LOGO CATGIRL



LOGO PRANING1



LOGO HARRY



LOGO Scream



LOGO ANGLES



LOGO BOYT



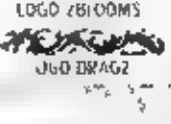
LOGO SHARKA



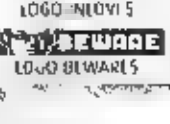
LOGO ZFAST



LOGO 5SKULLS



LOGO CATGIRL



LOGO PORNSTAR



LOGO GANDAKO



LOGO OOLING



LOGO GALLI



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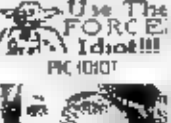
LOGO TORVIRT



LOGO TLOWNY



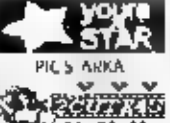
LOGO HBEAR



LOGO FRILND1



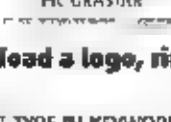
LOGO ZBLOOMS



LOGO INLOV



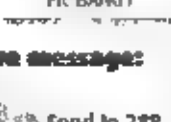
LOGO ASLEEP



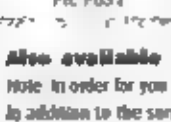
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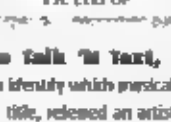
LOGO PEACE



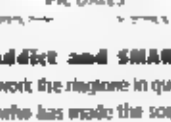
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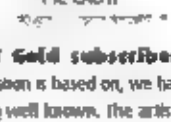
LOGO BEARGFT



LOGO LVOLVE1



LOGO BADGG



LOGO EXPLICIT



LOGO DRAG2

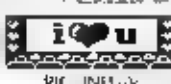


LOGO BEWARE1

Picture messages



PIC MOVIE



PIC INEYUV



PIC CINEMA



PIC BEASTAR



PIC FRENDITA



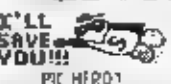
PIC WHATSUP3



PIC CATGIRL1



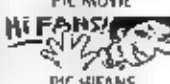
PIC IDHOT



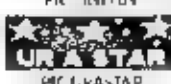
PIC HRO1



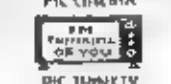
PIC ANKA



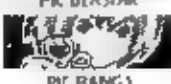
PIC HIFANS



PIC UNASTAR



PIC THINKTV



PIC BANG1



PIC MUS1



PIC EYEPOP



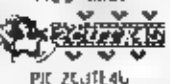
PIC DARE1



PIC CADYP



PIC DIVA



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BIENVENIDO Tan Jr.

Sunday **BIZ**

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Empty words won't do for this man of action

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

FORMER Ambassador Bienvenido A. Tan Jr. is annoyed with motherhood statements like poverty alleviation, developing capabilities and improving a person's lot in life.

Unless backed up with firm and resolute action, he says, these words are meaningless, on-

ly look good on paper and do not really help anybody.

Tan, thus, decided to take some action.

And he has done so throughout his long and stellar career in business, public life and in law that is studded with superlatives.

A founding member and past president of Philippine Business for Social Progress, he started out

by doing the usual civic work like giving money to charitable institutions, providing scholarships and participating in blood donation drives.

But even then, he knew that it was not enough.

"I started getting angry at words like strengthen, develop and improve. They mean nothing. What is important is to look

at a baseline situation and see it go up to an acceptable level," Tan says in an interview.

He was involved, for instance, in a farmers' group in Calauan, Laguna, where after providing some training and technology transfer, farmers' income improved from P3,000 to about P10,000 a month.

EMPTY B1



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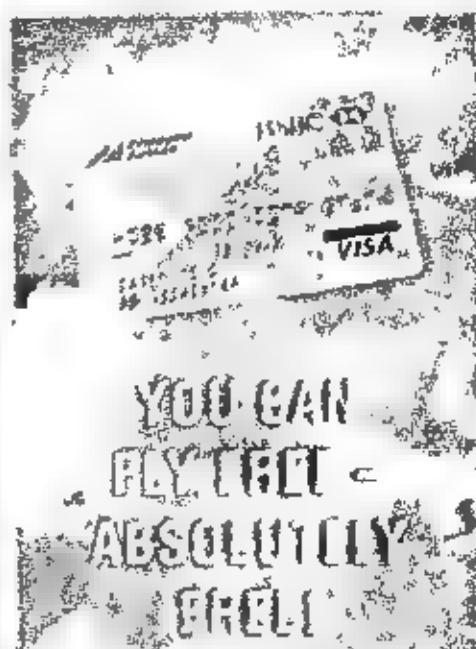
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mabuhay MILES

A tale of three entrepreneurs from Central Luzon

By Amy R. Ramo

CENTRAL Luzon, the food basket of the Philippines, proves to be indeed, a gastronomical treasure trove in this year's Lakha ng Central Luzon Trade Fair.

Themed as "SMEs: Kaagapay sa Pag-unlad ng Rehiyon," the fair gathers 127 exhibitors—53 of which offer food varieties—from 7 provinces of Region III.

Six of Pampanga's biggest meat processors—Pampanga's Best, Mekeni Meat Products, Tita's Special, Mother Earth Products, Ariel's Meat Products and Roel's Food Corp.—are expected to provide stiff competition to the more popular and established brands with their latest product offerings.

Shoppers can also expect a range of products showcasing culinary artistry and craftsmanship at par with the best in the world. Products sold at the fair include fresh, processed, organic and natural food, furniture, home furnishings, holiday décor, fashion accessories, bags and garments.

Held annually since 1999, the LCL trade fair aims to create a strong small- and medium-sized enterprise sector capable of competing globally, by providing manufacturers a venue to promote their products.

It is also an ideal venue for potential exporters, where they are given experience to prepare for the global market.

LCL 2004, held at the Megatrade Hall 1 of Megamall, concludes today.

Gracing the opening ceremony held last Oct. 6 was Trade Sec. Cesar V. Purisima, who stressed the importance of SMEs in alleviating poverty.

"Let's make this (trade fair) an enabler; something that inspires more people to go into business," said Purisima. "This would thus create more employment opportunities, and which, in the long run, can help uplift the economy."

Highlight of the ceremony was the awarding of the top three sales performers of the LCL '03.

Last year's fair generated a whopping P61.8 million in sales, double its target of P30 million. This year, DTI 3 aims to generate at least P50 million in sales.

Top grosser in last year's five-day fair was Mekeni Food Corp., generating sales of P22.8 million, which accounts for about 37 percent of the fair's total sales.

Mekeni was followed by Emmy's Quilts and Basket House with P9.09 million. NMS Handicraft placed third with P5.22 million in sales.

Inquirer sat down with these three awardees, all of whom share the same source of inspiration in their businesses: their employees.

Mekeni Food Corp.

(Balubad, Porac, Pampanga)

The year 1991 was not the best time to invest in a province, where almost all investors were closing out and businesses were piling up.

Mt. Pinatubo had just erupted, devastating the town of Porac. Its

neighboring towns, meanwhile, were also ravaged by the labor floods, burying communities along with the townsfolk's livelihood and dreams.

But Tatang Felix, owner of Mekeni Food Corp., stayed behind.

Seeing the dreadful plight of his fellow Kabeleños, Tatang Felix expanded his business so as to give people jobs. He wanted to give them "sustainable goods" rather than relief goods handed out by the government and organizations.

Tatang Felix called on his five sons, Adring, Proda, Lito, Dado and Nards, to come back to their town and invest their savings in their family business.

It was a difficult decision for the Garcia brothers, all of whom held high positions in companies here and abroad.

Their father's words, however, had completely changed their minds:

"You were born and raised here, schooled in this very town. Why do you have to offer your services and skills to other countries?"

And the risk was all worth it.

From its humble beginnings in 1986 as a small meat processing business managed by Tatang Felix and his wife Medicia, Mekeni is now capable of producing 70 tons of various meat products a day, such as hotdogs, tocino, ham and bacon.

Mekeni also stands out as a class AAA meat processing plant in Central Luzon, accredited by

the National Meat Inspection Commission of the Department of Agriculture.

It is also one out of only three companies in the country that has been awarded the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point, the international safety standard for food.

To date, Mekeni's distribution network spans from North Luzon, NCR, South Luzon and the Bicol region. It plans to distribute in the Visayas and Mindanao soon.

And true to his intention, Tatang Felix now has around 450 employees, 70 percent of which are from Balubad. He gave them the chance and hope to rebuild their lives after the Pinatubo catastrophe.

Now, Tatang Felix has a bigger family to care for.

Emmy's Quilts and Basket House

(Angeles City, Pampanga)

It was Esmeralde R. Vite's brother who saw a potential business venture in basket weaving.

Emmy, who managed a ready-to-wear business then and was only weaving baskets as a hobby, trusted his brother's intuition and decided to go for it.

In 1994, Emmy poured her P20,000 savings in the business to buy equipment and raw materials.

In a week, Emmy and her brother produced 10 baskets, made of buri rope, rattan and abaca.

When the orders started to come in, Emmy decided to hire

extra help from her community.

"Having employees proved to be difficult initially, because of first, quality control and second, cash advances," says Emmy in Filipino.

Emmy explains that even after teaching them the ropes, some workers still did not meet her standards in terms of product quality.

Emmy says she also had workers who would ask for cash advance from their salaries, but "disappear" the following week. Not only did it spell enormous losses in labor, but in profits as well.

Despite such incidents, Emmy hung on to the business, believing that she was providing employment to her community. She simply became more cautious and discerning in selecting her employees.

To date, Emmy has 30 in-house workers and about 100 others doing a job-out, or those who take home work.

Among Emmy's prized products are baskets, quilts, baby blankets and Christmas décor, which she started exporting in Hawaii in 2001.

Emmy is happy to know she's given decent jobs to his fellow Kapampangans. And that's more than enough a reward for her.

NMS Handicraft

(Sta. Maria, Bulacan)

After 18 years of producing baskets, bags and holiday décor, Myrna M. Sison of NMS Handicraft can only say this of her business:

"Napamahal na sya sa akin, kasama ng mga nagtatrabaho para sa amin."

Myrna's husband Noel then knew how to weave baskets made of rattan, buri rope and bakbak.

Armed with P30,000 and seven workers, Myrna and Noel weaved their way into the business, initially producing 100 baskets and bags a week. Myrna designed the bags herself.

"Initial difficulty lies on the workers," Myrna says in Filipino. "But they are also one of the main reasons why we want this business to flourish."

Myrna related that while most of her workers were highly skilled, some could not deliver the goods on the agreed time and date. Thus, thus, delayed the delivery of products to customers.

Over time, Myrna was able to inculcate in her workers the importance of being responsible and punctual.

To date, Myrna has about 50 job-out workers, supplying her around 500 to 1,000 pieces of woven products. NMS also accepts orders for furniture, home furnishings, and laundry hampers.

Weekly sales could range from P50,000 to as high as P100,000.

NMS currently supplies its products to a dealer in Manila.

Although there are no immediate plans of exporting, Myrna says she is in no hurry.

She can only be thankful that the business is still thriving and that her employees are contented working for NMS.

Empty words won't do ...

From page B1

Tan employed the same approach in other projects, and institutionalized these efforts through the family's four foundations.

"The family foundations were set up so that whatever money, talent and connections we have, we could use for people who need it. Because of this, we cannot use the weekend approach to doing our duty. It must be part of the day," he says.

Thus, he deliberately carved time out of his schedule to be true to his civic responsibilities.

This was despite the demands of his successful private law practice and stint as a government official.

Tan, a cum laude graduate of the law school of the University of the Philippines, was admitted to the bar in 1949, placing 8th in the exam nations. He quickly built a reputation as one of the best in the legal profession.

He joined the government in 1983 as coordinator of the Agrava Commission, a fact-finding board tasked to investigate the Aquino-Galman assassination, and then went on to serve the administration of President Corason C. Aquino as Commissioner of the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

He was head of government delegations to international conferences and treaty negotiations on tax-related matters, and was then named Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany.

It is hard, he says, to combine civic work and his professional career and there were many instances when he felt disheartened and wondering whether all the effort was worthwhile.

He cites an instance when he spearheaded efforts to provide a farm tractor to a group in Batangas, with the understanding that the members would pay for it so that the money would be used to help somebody else.

The tractor was never paid for and the group that asked for it, unfortunately, was the same as they ever were: poor and unwilling to break a sweat to provide a better life for their children.

S... he never gave up

"You just have to accept the fact that there is a lot of mistrust and with good reason. Many of these people ask, why are we doing this, what's in it for you? But you have to get past the mistrust. You have to see the face of our Lord in them. Only then will the work become easy," he says.

Tan adds that his spirits are buoyed by seeing how just a little bit of effort makes a significant difference in the lives of the poor, especially in Mindanao.

He says Mindanao has figured prominently in his plans, since he was introduced to the region in a big way in 2000, because of the region's need for help.

Of all the places that I have



HE has dipped into his 'lode' inheritance.

been involved in, Mindanao is the most in need," he says.

This point was brought home when he visited a school in Basilan. He saw that only one in 10 students had a decent pair of school shoes. And many of the children were not able to go to school every day because they had only one dress.

"I just had to do something about it. And it does not have to be big. You can just help one person, and that person will be another one who will see the light at the end of the tunnel. Then you move on to the next person," he says.

Helping a significant number of people see light at the end of the tunnel takes money, and he says that he has set aside so much that he was in danger of encroaching on the inheritance of his children.

"Fortunately, everyone, including the in-laws told me to spend it all," he says.

At 81, Tan should be taking it easy, but he still keeps a tight schedule due to his involvement in PRSP projects and as head of Children's Hour, among others, and his continuing career in the private sector as a member of the board of a number of major companies.

He does not entertain thoughts of slowing down, he says, as he feels that he remains on a mission to help the poor.

"With all the blessings that I had in my life, I have no excuse to not help. One of my greatest fears is the Lord telling me on Judgment day that I did not help, after all that He gave me. Maybe that's what keeps me going," he says.

Tan says he plans to live out the rest of his life doing his duty as a servant of God.

As he says in a book he is writing, he hopes that he ends his days doing what God planned for him and in seeing His face in others.

"Then I am sure I can do no wrong and then, hopefully, I can hear the Lord say to me, 'My good and faithful servant,'" he says.

friends and fans, is by no means a weenie.

The feisty co-host of GMA-7's Debate with Mare at Pare, Winnie speaks her mind sans pauses, her wit and wisdom as sharp as a knife. Her voice booms, her eyes cringe, her arms flail, her body scoops and shakes on and off cam, at mere mention of the most loathsome thoughts and deeds of those in power and out. Passion defines Winnie, woman of many parts.

She is mother of five brilliant children—a teacher-theatre actress, a mathematician-economist-community organizer, a pediatric endocrinologist, a composer-entrepreneur, and a bar topnotcher. As important, she is blissful granny twice over, and life partner for 43 years now to Christian, who had served with utmost distinction as Commission on Elections chairman and remains a respected barter in corporate circles.

Winnie is also all of the following: professor of economics at the University of the Philippines over the last 33 years, director general of the National Economic and Development Authority for three years, an eminent expert and trustee of various United Nations development agencies over the last 14 years.

Her show, Debate runs six on Nov. 18. In large measure, the program has built its strength on a perfect matching of hosts Mareng Winnie, to critics one of the best discoveries in the history of Philippine television, and Pareng Oca Orbos, a name of similarly great weight in both politics and broadcasting.

A new challenge beckons Winnie today, one of 11 nominees to the post of president of the University of the Philippines System, the country's premier state university. Her cutting edge? She has walked the myriad worlds of academia, government, media, civil society and international development agencies.

UP, a nest of academics constantly locked in discord, is home to 50,000 students in 640 academic programs, a most assertive faculty corps of 3,600, and 211,000 alumni. In 2008, UP will mark its centennial year. If she gets the job, Winnie would make history as the first woman president of UP and fittingly so, with a woman president—a few economics alumnae from UP sitting in Manila. UP after all, has ceased to be a male domain: two-thirds of the deans of all UP colleges and units are women.

In prior years, some nominees had coveted the position so, word was they did not eschew lobbying with the power. Not Winnie. She would not hear even hint of it from



MONSOD: I am not sure about having an open mind but if I hear an argument that makes sense, I am not closed to accepting it.

friends and supporters. That, even as the vision paper for UP received the longest and loudest applause in the seven public forums that nine nominees attended in various UP campuses across the nation.

"I have come to the conclusion that when you live in a developing country, and you really are interested in where that country is going, then you have to be in more places than you usually would be satisfied with," she said in a previous interview. "You have to do what you can."

Ambassador to Belgium Lilia Bauusta, former Securities and Exchange Commission chair, supposedly had first crack at the UP presidency, as far as the Palace was concerned. She declined the offer and in her stead nominated Winnie. But it was on the last day for nominees to turn in their CVs and vision papers that Winnie decided. "Well, I thought I could really help UP. You see the needs, you see the faults."

"I am a clear thinker. I think I have the ability to do phrases and nuances of everything. I articulate clearly given half a chance to do so. I am not sure about having an open mind but if I hear an argument that makes sense, I am not closed to accepting it. I don't take myself that seriously. The mark of a true leader, she says, is accepting that other views are more superior to yours."

A self-deprecating sense of humor keeps everyone happy and healthy and loved. It works for Winnie and Christian. "I think that's what he likes about me. He

says something about me, totoo, he laughs and I laugh, too. It is very humbling, she says, to be in the company of the best minds at the UP School of Economics."

Winnie's public persona as "Mareng Mataray" is unlike her private persona, according to those who had worked with her up close at UP and Neda.

Benjamin D. Tunano, DIC director of Neda's development information office, has worked for 29 years under nine Neda chiefs. He remembers Winnie as the Neda boss with the best rapport with rank and file. In those days when she still puffed Virgo S. Sins, Winnie came to Neda by herself, without a cotone of personal assistants. From the ranks, she chose her deputies.

Winnie, Tunano says, queued as all Neda employees for her turn to buy food at the canteen, once helped carry pots and pans of a caterer who rode with her in a lift, and unlike all other Neda chiefs, refused to have an elevator assigned to her exclusive use. After an official overseas trip as a Cabinet member of President Cory, Winnie returned her unspeakable per diem, a singular act of honesty possibly unparalleled then as now.

When Winnie filed her letter of irrevocable resignation in 1989 by her lonesome and in vain, she pushed selective repudiation of Marcos foreign debt. More than half of Neda's 800 head office staff marched to Makarandang to ask Cory to retain her. "When she said good-

bye emotions, out of anger, out of frustration," Tunano recalls.

"Winnie was a tough taskmaster but also just one of us at the Neda, waring ere, very down-to-earth," he adds. Pag may pinagawa syang assignment, she's firm about deadlines, even if we have to meet at her house until 11 p.m. Setting and tracking targets is Winnie's strength, and of her staff, she demanded complete staff work. Says Tunano: You are asked not just to give a report but also your recommendations and your reasons for your recommendations.

A political science professor who had seen Winnie work as a contemporary and chair of the UP Foundation, which led the grand fund-raising effort for the UP Diamond Jubilee celebration, is as generous with praise. Of all the nominees, he notes that Winnie connected the most with the faculty, students and administrative personnel.

She was able to speak very clearly about priorities and reduce them to programs and projects that enable people to think she really knew what she wanted to deliver, a presidency that could be tested empirically, he says. Winnie's vision paper focuses on three policy areas—academic excellence, enough financial resources to attract and keep the best minds at UP, and leadership and governance.

I envision a UP that continues to produce leaders at every level of government and in every sector of society leaders who are not only intellectually prepared but also ethically well-grounded, she said. In Winnie's words, academic excellence without integrity is dangerous to the country.

From Winnie's vision paper, he picks out two as the best cuts. The first, Winnie's proposal for a UP Development Index to measure progress in academic excellence, performance, and integrity against clear and quantifiable targets and benchmarks of by how much and by when. The second, her proposition that UP must learn to support itself and assert autonomy in a real sense, in the sense of generating its own resources.

UP's loss would remain be media's gain, and vice versa. Today she stands at a real crossroads: she might have to say good-bye soon to the other. "I told the public forums that of all the nominees, I would be the only one who would suffer a tremendous pay cut, in case I am appointed UP president."

"I can do this. I will do this, and I will go about it in a very systematic way," she says in trademark Winnie gumption.

Ayala Westgrove Heights' Pre-Christmas Bazaar on October 16 and 17

This year, Ayala Westgrove Heights will be hosting its first ever bazaar in preparation for the holiday season, following other exclusive villages such as Ayala Alabang and Forbes Park's yearly pre-holiday bazaars. The event, called "Christmas Comes Early at Ayala Westgrove Heights," will be a special occasion for residents and visitors of the subdivision amidst the hills and groves. Organized by the Ayala Westgrove Heights Association with the assistance of Ayala Land, Inc., this 2-day Christmas bazaar will be held near the development's entrance on October 16 and 17.

A wide variety of quality items from over 35 participating merchants will be made available. These include apparel and accessories from Starfish, Jen Mendoza and G'zels; home decorations and gift ideas from

JNB Handmade Products, St. Scholastica's CW Oblates, DJB Remix CDs and Santos Gardens; and assorted goodies from Ninia Miranda Rotisserie, Baker's Hearth, and Tooth Picks, among many others.

Merchants are invited to peddle their winsome wares and be part of this exciting endeavor. This will be a rare but worthwhile chance for a considerable number of Ayala Westgrove Heights homeowners and visitors to get and give gift items to loved ones and friends during the upcoming holiday season. It's only a matter of time before the calendar turns, so avoid the cramped malls and needless gift-buying worries. Beat the rush, and discover some valuable keepsakes ahead of eleventh-hour shoppers. Nearby residents and excited bargain-hunters are already bound to get

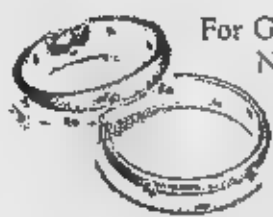
into the holiday spirit this early, as well.

The best buys will be at residential haven Ayala Westgrove Heights during this event. Ayala Land, Inc. has a special incentive for those who purchase lots during the period of Sept. 15 to Oct. 31. Thousands worth of Rustan's Department Store Gift Certificates will be awarded to purchasers per lot bought, in the "Pre-Christmas Treats from Ayala Westgrove Heights" promo.

For more info on the bazaar, please contact Ms. Betzaida Bixares at 812-7108 (landline), 8186680 (fax) and 0927-6429510. For inquiries about Ayala Westgrove Heights, please call 848-5000, log on to www.ayalaland.com.ph, or email ayala-sales@ayalaland.com.ph.

"When we can finally stop and smell the flowers, we know we've made the right decision."

Greg and Norma Lapeña
Ayala Westgrove Heights Homeowners



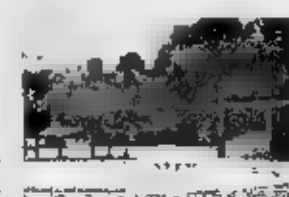
For Greg and Norma Lapeña, life has been quite a journey. Now, in the comfort of each other's arms, they can finally slow down, sit back, and literally smell the flowers. And Ayala Westgrove Heights is the perfect backdrop for their already colorful lives. A doctor and a nurse, they've been partners since the day they met. They decided to move to the U. S. shortly after getting married. There, they had successful careers, a beautiful home by the lake, a loving family. Life couldn't be more wonderful. Or so they thought.

Ayala Westgrove Heights, after all, is designed to be a self-contained community. All the necessary amenities are continuously being built around it: schools, hospitals, commercial centers, groceries, churches. Only 15 minutes away from Alabang, it's a sanctuary that does not isolate, but offers a chance to escape at the end of the day.

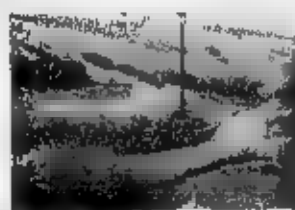


Inside, they are surrounded by lush mango groves and rolling hills; a cool climate makes quiet afternoons all the more wonderful. The gazebo, clubhouse and children's playground for their grandchild are reasons enough not to even leave the village gates.

Greg believes that all these things make Ayala Westgrove Heights the Next Big Thing. He knows that with the Ayala Land pedigree, he can't go wrong. How Ayala Alabang thrived as a community is proof of this. And looking at their new home, he knows that this is truly the investment of their lifetime.



For Greg and Norma, life slows down at Ayala Westgrove Heights. Slow enough for them to spend each day reading mystery novels, listening to classical music or just enjoying each other's company. Being with the one you love, in a place you love - this is exactly how they wanted to spend the rest of their journey together.



In 2001, they were back in Manila for a visit. Coming home was a chance to enjoy the things they missed -- family, old friends, spontaneous get-togethers. They'd been away for over 30 years, but always knew they would return to spend their golden years in the Philippines. It seemed like fate, then, when a nephew invited them to take a look at a piece of property he and his wife had just acquired. After a quick tour, Greg and Norma knew they'd finally found the place. Fresh, clean air. Beautiful views. Peace and security. A place distant enough from the maddening city, but not detached from its comforts. They felt it was going to be big, very big. So that very same day, they found themselves making a reservation.



AYALA Westgrove Heights



call 848-5000 • ayala-sales@ayalaland.com.ph • www.ayalaland.com.ph

People, Events & Products

Editor Arles Espinosa

Samsung launches ViP design methodology

SAMSUNG Electronics Co Ltd, a leader in advanced semiconductor technology, today revealed a hardware/software co-design methodology that will reduce overall design time for the company's System-on-Chip (SoC) products by up to 40 percent. The Virtual Platform (ViP) approach will ultimately result in faster production of Samsung logic components while giving the company's customers a time-to-market advantage.

Samsung developed the ViP design methodology in partnership with EDA vendors to address the ever-increasing complexity of SoC design challenges. Today's exploding market for multi-function consumer products requires more on-chip firmware as well as transistors, complicating and extending the design process. Using the ViP methodology, simulation speeds are hundreds of

even thousands of times faster than that of a traditional RTL approach while maintaining more than 90 percent of accuracy over RTL.

With the conventional RTL design methodology, it was not possible to design and optimize software before the field-programmable gate array (FPGA) prototype is ready. In addition, it was hard to identify whether the error was due to hardware or software. Using the ViP approach, software designers can now prepare fully-optimized and error-minimized software before the development of RTL code, reducing the SoC design time by up to 40 percent.

Senior vice president Soq-kwan Bo of the SoC R&D Center at Samsung Electronics, who leads the ViP development team, said: "The ViP methodology has improved system design productivity and reduced SoC design and software development

cycles. ViP will help us develop highly integrated devices ahead of the competition to maintain our market leadership."

Some of Samsung's SoC products have already benefited from the ViP methodology. It has been applied to develop the flash memory card controller that is already in mass production, enabling engineers to improve certain chip performance such as the data read operation by more than 30 percent.

Samsung's ViP design methodology has proven its applicability to SoC products with multiple processors. For example, Samsung's HD digital TV SoC, modern chip for 3G mobile phone, and mobile application processor devices have shown excellent results. Samsung will expand the use of ViP within its logic product line to encompass other various SoC devices.



IBM DONATES PERSONAL COMPUTERS TO UPIS

In line with its community relations program, IBM Philippines recently donated IBM personal computers to the University of the Philippines Integrated School (UPIS). This project was co-initiated by the UPHEIS Alumni Foundation, an organization established to support the objectives and requirements of UPIS. The turnover ceremony was at-

tended by (from left) Chestnut Andaya, country manager for marketing, IBM Phils; Rina Jichanco Canals, member, UPHEIS Alumni Foundation; Carolyn Uy Ronquillo, member, JPHPEIS Alumni Foundation; Ramon Gutierrez, UP High, Prep. Elementary and Integrated School Foundation Inc. Dr. Julian Abuso, UPIS principal.

Around the Philippines in 10 days

MOZCOM, the first and largest ISP in the Philippines, recently celebrated its 10th year Anniversary. Two buses roamed around the country, one each for Luzon and Visayas/Mindanao for ten days.

A send-off party was held at The Taipan Place, Ortigas Center for Luzon and at the Landco-PD-CP Corporate Center in Davao for the Visayas/Mindanao. Mozcom staff and other guests gathered to wish the tour and its passengers a safe and successful trip.

In Luzon, different kinds of celebrations were held at each POP (Point of Presence) where the bus stopped. An ICT Conference in Malolos, Bulacan was conducted with Mozcom organizing and sponsoring the event. For Tarlac, different schools participated in the Mozcom Nitro Quiz Show. Cross country bikers cycled off in Dagupan along with the bus while people rocked to the music at the Mozcom concert in SM Baguio. There were also motorcades and school tours in Dasmariñas, Lucena City and Legaspi City.

Meanwhile in Davao, the tour went from General Santos to Marbel, Bulodnon and Cagayan de Oro, stopping at different schools and radio stations to announce the Mozcom Bus' presence in

the area. Some students had the opportunity to ride the bus. An LRN (Learning Resources Network) Conference was held in Dipolog, at the Taplaza Hotel. From there, the Bus took a ferry ride to reach the different islands of Visayas. Dumaguete had the biggest POP party in the Visayas leg. Party revelers flocked to Quezon Park when evening struck. There were school and radio tours as well in Bacolod, where contests were held in the different universities and radio stations.

"The outcome of the Bus tour was more than we expected. The POPs were very cooperative and eager to make the tour successful," said Joane Tempra, Mozcom Bus tour organizer.

The tour commenced with three Gasa Nights held simultaneously at The Peninsula Manila in Manila, The Waterfront Hotel in Cebu and at The Royal Mandaya Hotel in Davao. The parties were broadcasted to each branch using Mozcom's very own videoconferencing service. It was a night of reminiscing and recognition.

"Riding the bus was a symbolic way of meeting up with our subscribers and potential customers in the information highway," said Beta Balagot-Gan, Mozcom's chair and CEO.



SEARCH IS ON FOR OUTSTANDING DOCTORS

The search is on for outstanding Filipino doctors in the 14th Dr. Jose Rizal Memorial Awards. A collaboration between the Philippine Medical Association (PMA) and United Laboratories Inc. (Unilab), the JPRMA is an annual search for outstanding Filipino doctors who have demonstrated excellence in and dedication to their profession. Shown in photo during the formal launching ceremonies at the Discovery Suites, Pasig City

are (seated, from left): Dr. Nenita Tan, Dr. Avelina dela Rea, Dr. Mona Lisa Cosme, Dr. Gorazon Lim and Dr. Gregorio Andaman Jr. Standing (from left are): Dr. Galicano Espiritu, Dr. Emily Pempengco, Dr. Preciosa Roman, Dr. Melus Trinidad, Dr. Jose Sabido, Dr. Carmelita Vergara, Unilab president Carlos Ejercito, Dr. Arthur Tolentino, Dr. Milo Pempengco, Dr. Rossana Shellshear, Dr. Elizabeth Naval and Dr. Tito Naval.



GMA-7 VICE PRESIDENT FOR HRD RECEIVES AWARD FROM PHMAP

GMA Network vice president for HRD Dexter C. Mendoza (right) receives the 2004 Outstanding Personnel Manager of the Year Award from Personae Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP) president Oscar Contreras (left) during the Awarding Ceremonies held recently at Camp John Hay, Baguio City. Mendoza was cited for his contribution to the transformation of GMA Network's HR by simple solutions that brought the people and the organization closer. GMA-7 has breached the P1B mark in profits last year, while the increase in its viewership ratings has consistently continued.



FACTS
August 20

MITSUBISHI MOTORS PARTNERS WITH BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK

BPI Family Savings Bank recently signed a joint marketing agreement with the Mitsubishi Motors Philippines for BPI Family's Auto Madness promo. This new partnership will allow BPI clients a chance to avail of any brand new Mitsubishi vehicle of their choice through the BPI Family's Auto Madness until Oct. 30. BPI Family Savings Bank's car financing scheme will be accepted at all franchised Mitsubishi Motors showrooms in Metro Manila, as well as showrooms in the provincial areas located within BPI Family's business centers. On hand during the joint signing were Alfonso Saucedo, president of BPI Family Savings Bank, and Yoshiaki Ichimura, senior executive vice president for Marketing of Mitsubishi Motors Phils. Only BPI's Family Auto Madness promo comes with a low downpayment scheme, low interest rates, a one-day credit decision, a built-in insurance option, and a P30,000 monthly income to qualify

Product FILES

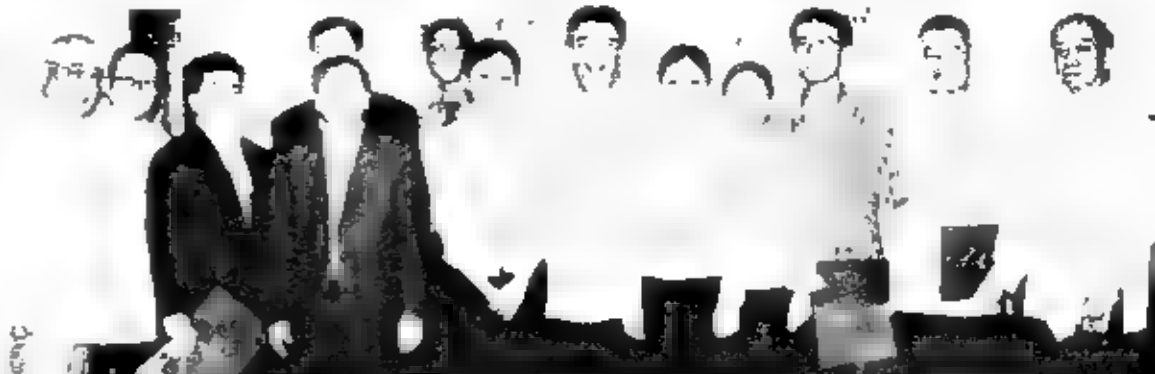
Funfilled ways to enjoy Nissin Collecticups

Made of sturdy plastic that come in a variety of colorful cartoon designs, Nissin's Collecticups make for fun, attractive and unique containers. Use them as canisters to keep office supplies like pens, paper clips and staple wires organized. Or transform them into storage bins for calling cards and little notes that usually clutter your desk. Too much spare change? Put them in handy Collecticups instead of having them jingle in your pocket. Or if you want to save up for a rainy day, cover the top of your Collecticup with some fancy paper, make a little slit on top, and use as a coin bank. And if you want to give a bit of character to your study area or office space, re-plant some indoor greens in Collecticups and use them to embellish your desk. Nissin's Cup Noodles are flavorful, handy and convenient, making them an ideal snack or a light but satisfying meal. Choose from six appealing flavors - Chicken, Beef, Seafood, Bulalo, Batchoy and Spicy Seafood to enjoy a delicious and energy-packed meal in a fun and delightful cup that's absolutely reusable.



Get it fresh from Carefree

ARE you feeling girly? Maybe sporty? Perhaps classic? Or possibly flirty? Whatever your mood, whatever your fancy, Carefree provides a companion just right for your personality. Introducing the New Carefree Fresh - your oh-so-reliable party liners now in four new and incredibly cute designs. It's a definite must-have for every kooky girl. It even comes in convenient and hassle-free mini flip-top boxes so you can bring it with you everywhere you go. Make a fashion statement, be hip, go trendy, and funk up your outfit with this stylish accessory. Carefree Fresh gives you the best coverage in an Ultrathin form, keeping you feeling clean, confident, and fresh all day everyday! No worries, just the feeling of being carefree no matter where you go, what you do or who you're with. With Carefree Fresh, you have a new and fun companion that you just can't do without.



ACCRA LAW DONATES TO UP LAW FOR SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

The law firm of Angara Concepcion Regala and Cruz (Accralaw) through its Accralaw Foundation Inc. donated P5 million to the UP College of Law for scholarship grants deserving and meritorious students of the college in honor of its beloved late senior partner, lawyer Violeta Calvo Drilon. Senate President Franklin Drilon and lawyer Eusebio Tan, managing partner of Accralaw, awarded the scholarship grants to the first batch of students of the UP College of Law on Aug. 20. The scholarship will be known as the "Violeta Calvo-Drilon - Accralaw Scholarship Grant." The scholarships are being managed by the UP College of

Law Scholarship Committee in coordination with the Accralaw Foundation Inc. Photo shows (from left): Accralaw founding and senior partner Teodoro Regala; UP College of Law dean Raul Pangalangan; Oscar Franklin Tan, chair, Philippine Law Journal; Accralaw founding and senior partner Avelino Cruz; Avian Charles Veloso and Banuar Falcon, president - Law Student Government (behind); Joan de Vaneza; Senate President Franklin Drilon; Marie Grace Mappala; Dionne Marie Sanchez; Alison Alejandro Garcia; Accralaw managing partner Eusebio Tan and UP professor Salvador Cariola.

'Moving Art'

THE MUSEUM at De La Salle University-Manila opened "Moving Art", a collection of interpretations and experiences of movements by renowned artists, last Sept. 15. All artworks featured in the exhibit are part of the Wil and Doreen Fernandez Art

and education. Moving Art will run until Dec. 10 at The Museum from Monday to Friday (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and Saturday (8 a.m. to 12 p.m.). For inquiries, contact the curator at 524-4611 local 368.

Family Day and Mini Bazaar

THE COLLEGE of the Holy Spirit Alumnae Foundation will hold a Family Day and Mini Bazaar on Oct. 23, from 1 to 5 p.m. at the NGA Clubhouse, North Greenhills, San Juan. All alumnae and friends are invited to join the fun activities. The foundation is currently concentrating its efforts for the CHS scholarship fund. For particulars, call Rose or Beth at CHSAF office, tel. no. 735-5986.

Philips, MTV hold 'Whatever Things' co-host search

PHILIPS Consumer Electronics, together with MTV launches the second season of "MTV Whatever Things" for the new season, Philips and MTV will hold the "Whatever Things Show Host Contest" a regional talent search for that unique individual to join celebrity Edison Chong in hosting the show. For those who think they have what it takes to co-host "MTV Whatever Things", they need to submit their photo and an idea for a crazy stunt they'll perform if selected to www.invasia.com until Oct. 10.



CAR MAGIC SIGNING AGREEMENT

Car Magic recently signed up with its new franchise holders which will serve the areas near Pasong Tamo in Makati, The Fort in Global City and selected areas in Carina, Rizal. Car Magic, a home service auto painting company, is a unique kind of car body service conceptualized to repair dents and scratches in automobiles in just one day, at the owner's convenience and at a very affordable price, with high quality results, as if nothing happened to the car. Show signing the agreement are (from left) franchise holder Victor Isidro, Car Magic president Butch Salvador and franchise holder Jun Samalillo.



TOKEN

HANDOVER

General Trias Mayor Lito Lita (right) received a (book) token from resource speaker lawyer Antonio Opoza Jr. (left) during the Address on Environmental Laws organized by the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (Menro) held last Aug. 27 at the Trias Municipal Hall.



HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND

8th Floor Pacific Center Bldg. San Miguel Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

INVITATION TO BID

The Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF) Bidding Committee shall conduct a public bidding for the sale of the following acquired residential properties on October 27, 2010 (WEDNESDAY) 1:00 PM at 8th Floor Pacific Center Bldg. San Miguel Avenue Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Lot No.		Area (sqm)		Volume (cc)		Total Area (sqm)		Total Volume (cc)		Remarks	
1	101	101.00	101.00	101.00	101.00	101.00	101.00	101.00	101.00		
2	102	102.00	102.00	102.00	102.00	102.00	102.00	102.00	102.00		
3	103	103.00	103.00	103.00	103.00	103.00	103.00	103.00	103.00		
4	104	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00		
5	105	105.00	105.00	105.00	105.00	105.00	105.00	105.00	105.00		
6	106	106.00	106.00	106.00	106.00	106.00	106.00	106.00	106.00		
7	107	107.00	107.00	107.00	107.00	107.00	107.00	107.00	107.00		
8	108	108.00	108.00	108.00	108.00	108.00	108.00	108.00	108.00		
9	109	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00	109.00		
10	110	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00		
11	111	111.00	111.00	111.00	111.00	111.00	111.00	111.00	111.00		
12	112	112.00	112.00	112.00	112.00	112.00	112.00	112.00	112.00		
13	113	113.00	113.00	113.00	113.00	113.00	113.00	113.00	113.00		
14	114	114.00	114.00	114.00	114.00	114.00	114.00	114.00	114.00		
15	115	115.00	115.00	115.00	115.00	115.00	115.00	115.00	115.00		
16	116	116.00	116.00	116.00	116.00	116.00	116.00	116.00	116.00		
17	117	117.00	117.00	117.00	117.00	117.00	117.00	117.00	117.00		
18	118	118.00	118.00	118.00	118.00	118.00	118.00	118.00	118.00		
19	119	119.00	119.00	119.00	119.00	119.00	119.00	119.00	119.00		
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21	121	121.00	121.00	121.00	121.00	121.00	121.00	121.00	121.00		
22	122	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00		
23	123	123.00	123.00	123.00	123.00	123.00	123.00	123.00	123.00		
24	124	124.00	124.00	124.00	124.00	124.00	124.00	124.00	124.00		
25	125	125.00	125.00	125.00	125.00	125.00	125.00	125.00	125.00		
26	126	126.00	126.00	126.00	126.00	126.00	126.00	126.00	126.00		
27	127	127.00	127.00	127.00	127.00	127.00	127.00	127.00	127.00		
28	128	128.00	128.00	128.00	128.00	128.00	128.00	128.00	128.00		
29	129	129.00	129.00	129.00	129.00	129.00	129.00	129.00	129.00		
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31	131	131.00	131.00	131.00	131.00	131.00	131.00	131.00	131.00		
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34	134	134.00	134.00	134.00	134.00	134.00	134.00	134.00	134.00		
35	135	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00		
36	136	136.00	136.00	136.00	136.00	136.00	136.00	136.00	136.00		
37	137	137.00	137.00	137.00	137.00	137.00	137.00	137.00	137.00		
38	138	138.00	138.00	138.00	138.00	138.00	138.00	138.00	138.00		
39	139	139.00	139.00	139.00	139.00	139.00	139.00	139.00	139.00		
40	140	140.00	140.00	140.00	140.00	140.00	140.00	140.00	140.00		
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42	142	142.00	142.00	142.00	142.00	142.00	142.00	142.00	142.00		
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100	200	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00		

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Interested parties are required to secure copies of: (a) INSTRUCTION TO BIDDERS and (b) BID FORMS from the Acquired Asset Management, 8th Floor Pacific Center Bldg. San Miguel Avenue Ortigas Center, Pasig City.
 - Proposals shall be opened in the presence of attending bidders.
 - Each bid proposal shall be accompanied by a DEPOSIT in CASH or CERTIFIED CASHIER'S/MANAGER'S CHECK issued in Metro Manila, payable to the Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF) in an amount equivalent to at least TEN PERCENT (10%) of the total bid price.
 - Properties shall be sold on an "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and the winning bidder shall take possession of the property without seeking assistance from the HDMF.
 - All bidders are advised to visit/inspect the properties for bidding before posting their bid proposals.
 - In the event where submission of bid proposals is made by a bidder, the bidder shall be deemed to have accepted the terms and conditions of the bidding process.
 - All awards by the Bidding Committee shall be subject to the approval / confirmation of the VP-NCR Housing Operations, North Sector / Manager - Acquired Asset Management, North Sector.
- HDMF RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY INFORMALITY THEREIN OR ACCEPT SUCH BIDS AS MAY BE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGE

Christmas happens 365 days a year in this shop

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

FOR Nelson and Tami Leung, Christmas happens practically 365 days a year.

But it is not just about receiving gifts or laying out a Noche Buena feast, as only those in the competitive business of exporting Christmas décor, like the Leungs' Tamilee Enterprises, know only too well.

From January to March, Tami, the creative force behind the 17-year-old company, travels to meet with buyers and firm up orders for Christmas of that year.

Over the next quarter, Tamilee's production facility in Pasig works overtime to meet export orders from the United States and Europe.

As many as 1,000 workers come together and combine imported berries, ribbons and foliage with indigenous raw materials like pine cones from Benguet and an assortment of twigs, seeds, vine and wood from remote provinces, to come up with award-winning works of Christmas art.

Come July, Tami is off again to different countries to look for new materials, check out the latest color trends and refresh her creative energies.

The last quarter is then spent developing a new line of Christmas decorations that would fill up the catalog of high-end names in the retail business, like Neiman Marcus, Macy's, Bloomingdale's, Fortunoff and Dillard's and Front Gate, the following year.

It is a stressful business, Tami says, with such headaches as greater competition from China, imitation of Tamilee's designs and meeting deadlines.

But there is something about being surrounded by beautiful decorations the whole year round that never fails to lift sagging spirits.

It also helps that Tami is a self-confessed Christmas addict.

"Christmas has always been a nice tradition in our family. My father and I would go off to the mountains and look for our own



TAMI Leung, president of Tamilee Enterprises

tree. And we eight children would decorate it together," says Tami, who was born and raised in Baguio.

She continued the tradition when she got married to Nelson and had two sons, all of them pitching in to decorate their Baguio home during the holidays.

The seed of the Leungs' export business was planted as early as 1974 when she and Nelson were still involved in the Leung family business of tobacco trading, based in Vigan, Ilocos Sur.

"We were working only from January to June, July to December was rest and recreation time. Since I had a lot of time on my hands, I would make decorations for my friends, using materials that I picked up from the tobacco

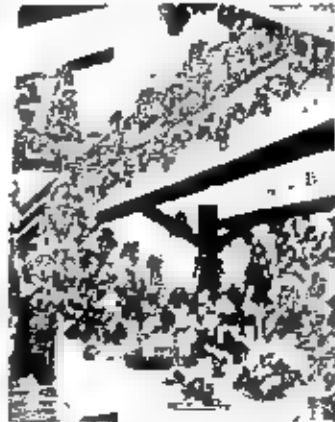
fields. My friends loved them," she says.

When Nelson was invited to work for the Jacinto steel firm in 1986, they left the tobacco trading business and went to Manila.

It was in August of the following year when she was driving along Roxas Boulevard and saw that the Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions was inviting companies to participate in a fair that October.

"I just dropped in and asked if I could join and feature Christmas decorations, which was the only thing I knew. They said it was too late to join for that October but asked if I could show them some samples," she says.

Tami says she called up her



TAMILEE showroom along P. Guevarra, San Juan, showcases 16 themes with different decor ideas and colors.

friends and asked to borrow the Christmas decorations she gave them. She showed them to the Citem people and they were beside themselves with excitement.

"They gave me a booth right away. And when I told them that I knew nothing about business, they said not to worry because they would help me. And they did. By that October, I was in the show," she says.

Tamilee's products were a hit in the show where she got her first order worth \$165,000 from an Italian buyer.

It overwhelmed Tami, who worked herself ragged doing the decorations atop the family dining table, with the help of her cook, driver, yaya and maid.

She confessed to the Italian buyer that she would not know the first thing about getting the raw materials she needed to meet the order, but the buyer helped and in two weeks, sent two Federal Express vans to her house, filled with enough raw materials to come up with several lines of Christmas décor.

There was no looking back and Tami forged ahead, overcoming obstacles like the lack of capital, having to mortgage the family house and rounding up the people in the neighborhood to help her and her household staff meet



A BERIBBONED gold box, festooned with roses, foliage and berries, is a gift in itself.

the orders.

But there were many angels who helped her along the way, including the father of the tutor of her second son, who was senior vice president of Far East Bank and Trust Co. (which was merged with the Bank of the Philippine Islands), and her husband, who resigned from Jacinto Steel, to help her with the financial side of the business.

"Since she already mortgaged the family house, I better keep watch," Nelson says.

The Leungs' perseverance paid off and Tamilee has become one of the prime movers behind the Philippines' stake in the world market for Christmas decorations.

It is also active in the local scene, decorating retail shops, houses and hotels.

Tamilee even decorated Malacañang Palace and the Arlegui presidential palace during the term of President Corason C. Aquino.

Tamilee also got its fair share of awards, including the prestigious Golden Shell award from Citem and the Countryside Development Award from



SINGLE candelabra with foliage, berries and fabric ribbon

the DTI, a recognition of the livelihood opportunities that Tamilee extended to small entrepreneurs in the provinces, who supply the Leungs with raw materials.

This she attributes to the passion that she and her staff put into the business, the kind that has not waned even after 17 long and fruitful years.

Just last year, Tamilee opened up the Color It Christmas retail outlet, which used to be the buyers showroom at 325 A&B P. Guevarra St., San Juan, and also their old house, to cater to the local market.

It does not feature old decorations that were not sold in the export market, rather the decorations for Christmas 2005.

Nelson and Tami say that they are nearing retirement age, but they show no signs of stopping.

"We will keep on going as much as we can and we will continue to grow as long as they don't abolish Christmas," Tam says.

(For inquiries, call Color It Christmas at 7249110/7267609).

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Those who subscribe from Oct. 1 to 31, 2004 could become one of the first new subscribers to enjoy up to 30 days of free trial. New postpaid subscribers' free 30-day trial period starts on the first day of their billing cycle while new prepaid subscribers' free 15-day trial period begins 24 hours after their first call or text. Active Sun Cellular postpaid and prepaid subscribers as of Sept. 30 thus

year will also enjoy the same free trial period.

Aside from offering value-added services, Sun Cellular is continuously rolling out programs in line with its commitment to provide a better network and better value for its subscribers. As part of its nationwide expansion program, it recently strengthened its facilities in key areas in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, with more network enhancements to be implemented soon.


For more information on Sun Cellular, visit its website at www.suncellular.com.ph or call its 24-hour hotline number at 395-8000.

Singapore Airlines best airline for business travel

SINGAPORE Airlines has been voted best airline for business travel and No. 2 in the long-haul leisure travel category in the latest survey conducted by Conde Nast Traveller, an award-winning US based travel magazine. Readers of the publication's British edition did the voting.

The rankings, which are into their seventh year, are recognized worldwide as a benchmark for the travel industry. It has a circulation of 83,000.

In the same survey, Singapore was voted the world's best city to visit, followed by Sydney and Barcelona for second and third place.



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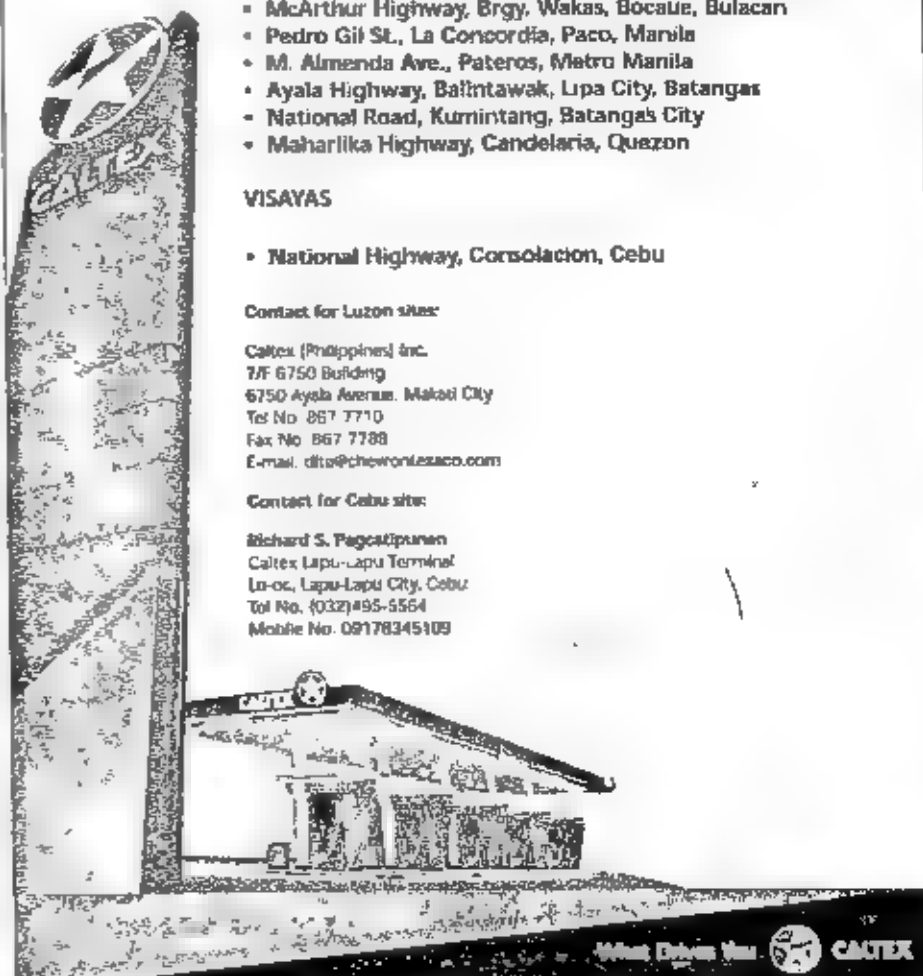
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Biodiversity Analysis, Synthesis & Monitoring Analysis Leader

This position is at a senior level and offers an exciting opportunity to make an impact on Philippine biodiversity conservation. The need for this position has arisen as a result of the recent change in structure of the CI-Philippines program. One of the units created under the new structure is the Biodiversity Analysis, Synthesis & Monitoring unit under a leader who will be in charge of managing and coordinating all activities on the study analysis of threatened and endemic species in the Philippines. The results of this analysis will represent the quantifiable species, sites and corridor conservation outcomes that will be the basis for all future CI Philippines conservation investments. The unit will also be responsible for building the groundwork for a systematic approach to monitoring that will permit the objective, comprehensive assessment of conservation results. This will facilitate development of a comprehensive, scientifically rigorous system for measuring conservation success that will build donor trust and improve on-the-ground conservation action.

- Responsibilities:**
- Report to CBC Director
 - Support the CBC Director, Corridor Program Managers, and partners in clearly defining three scales of strategic outcomes ("Extinction Avoided", "Areas Protected" and "Corridors Created") for the Philippine CBC by ensuring appropriate analyses to define and monitor species, site and corridor outcomes.
 - Supervise the compilation of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species for Philippine vertebrates and selected invertebrate and plant groups at global and national levels, in order to define "Extinction Avoided" outcomes.
 - Support the creation of a United Nations Red List Authority under the aegis of the Philippine Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau and the Philippine National Museum that will provide an institutional platform and basis to deliver and monitor Philippine CBC outcomes.
 - Coordinate the planning and implementation of projects addressing the conservation of selected threatened species.
 - Develop and implement partnership mechanisms with key research and academic institutions such as museums of natural history (e.g., Philippine National Museum, Chicago Field Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology and Herbaria, Natural Herbarium of Netherlands), universities, marine research institutions (UP-AtSI, Scripps Institute of Oceanography, NOAA), species-specific conservation programs (e.g., Tamaraw Conservation Program, Pangasinan Conservation Project, Philippine Eagle Foundation, Philippine Paper Conservation Program), zoological and botanical gardens, etc. which aim to strengthen current specimen/data holdings, improve data collection and dissemination of distribution/ecological information for vertebrates and selected invertebrate and plant groups, in order to define "Areas Protected" outcomes and hence integrate a representative database to base future priority analysis of important Biodiversity Areas, new Protected Areas and Corridors.
 - Supervise the process for identifying critical knowledge gaps and catalyze targeted R&D activities.
 - Assist with the creation of new alliances, at national and international levels and coordinate their activities and, as necessary, support with the Philippine CBC, including agreements with Habitat, WWF, UP System, ASEAN organizations, etc. for biodiversity data sharing and dissemination.
 - Assist in the construction of a participative process to develop the necessary projects and budgets for the three of strategic outcomes in order to support the funding process.
- Qualifications/Requirements:**
- Advanced degree (Ph.D. or equivalent) in Conservation Biology, Biodiversity Analysis, Landscape Ecology, Biogeography or a related field.
 - 8-10 years relevant experience in the Philippines, and preferably at least 5 years' experience in program management.
 - Extensive experience in managing and analyzing biodiversity information.
 - Ability to apply technical information, data and analysis to the on-the-ground practice of conservation.
 - Training and experience in conservation biology, wildlife management and/or landscape ecology.
 - Experience in developing species-based conservation strategies and thorough understanding of the IUCN Red List criteria and process.
 - Experience in conducting ecological assessments and field research.
 - Working experience of the conservation context in the Philippines, as well as the socioeconomic context as it relates to conservation and policy.
 - Demonstrated ability to lead, direct and manage teams as well as to motivate and mentor staff.
 - Ability to perform well under pressure and to meet deadlines.
 - Flexibility/Adaptability.
 - Fluently capable of Hindi.

Interested applicants may submit their application with comprehensive resume not later than 17 October 2004 to:

The Country Executive Director
Conservation International-Philippines
#5 South Labin Pham Homes, Quezon City, 1104
or email: esp@ci.ph or esp@ci.ph

(No phone call. Only those short-listed will be notified)

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 - Diploma or Technical Certificate in Mechanical/Electrical/Instrumentation Equipment Engineering/Civil or Structural work at least 5 years working specifically in oil & gas projects
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 - For Supervisor post minimum 7 years experience in QA/QC with at least 4 years experience specifically in oil & gas projects
- PLANNING EXECUTIVES/ENGINEERS (6 positions)**
 - Degree or Diploma in any Engineering Discipline or equivalent
 - Minimum 8 years experience in project planning for construction site work with at least 5 years experience directly in Oil & Gas project planning
 - Proficient in using MS Project Planning Software/ Primavera
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 - Degree or Diploma in Mechanical/Electrical Engineering
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 - Registered Safety & Health Officer (SHO) with the Department of Occupational Safety & Health (DOSH) or Equivalent
 - Minimum 8 years experience in site safety for const. of oil & gas projects
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In cooperation with EDIGITALWEB, a US-based company is in need of the following:

1. WEB PROGRAMMERS

- With 3 years experience using PHP, PERL, MYSQL, APACHE, and LINUX/UNIX
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2. LINUX SERVER ADMINISTRATORS

- Expert in Redhat Linux/Fedora and Apache
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Bring your resume for interview to Century Park Hotel Business Center on October 12, 2004 2:00-5:00 p.m. and October 13, 2004 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. or send to tracy@edigitalweb.com.

Hingemedia, inc.

Hinge Media Inc., a dynamic company engaged in the publication of high-quality magazines, is in immediate need of Account Executives

1. Responsibility

- The Account Executive will be directly responsible for soliciting advertisements for our publications

2. What we can offer:

- Above-industry base salary plus substantial direct commissions for every closed sale
- Professional sales training and coaching from top sales experts
- Travel opportunities

3. Requirements:

- Female, 23 to 30 years old, aggressive and hardworking
- Must be a graduate of any four-year course from a reputable university
- Must have at least 2 years of sales experience in the industry. Those with less than 2 years' work experience need not apply
- Must possess excellent verbal and written English and Filipino communication skills
- Must have strong, persuasive presentation skills

Applicants are required to personally bring their resume, two (2) 2"x2" photos, transcript of records, and any valid ID. Interested parties may visit our office on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:00am to 12:00pm at 1705 Cayland Herrera Tower, 90 Herrera cor. Valero Streets, Salcedo Village, Makati City 1227 Philippines or call 813 6648

ABANGAN!

Job Market's JOBZ: OVERSEAS Employment Expo

Any Job Fair has to be a combination of job openings and employment opportunities

Kailan: October 11 & 12, 2004
Saan: Starmall, Las Piñas

Para sa mga interesado ng papunta, magdala lamang ng enrolling copy ng resumes. Kung may tanong, maaari kayong tumawag sa mga susunod ng Inquirer Classifieds Ads branches:

Main	- 897-8808 loc. 514 / 516
Makati	- 811-4361 / 811-4370
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Mandaluyong	- 635-0219 / 637-2008
Marikina	- 527-3342 / 522-4406
Provincial	- 897-8808 loc. 243

INQUIRER JOBZ OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT EXPO
OCTOBER 11 & 12, 2004 STARMALL, LAS PINAS

Activities on October 11, 2004

- 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM - Nursing Employment opportunities in the US by Ms. Rochelle Garcia, MD, President of NHR Placement Center, Inc.
- 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM - Consultation on Employment by Mr. Joseph Reynolds, Managing Consultant of Reynolds Review Institute, Inc.

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**ERLINDA SAMONTE
GARCIA**

of Taguig, Metro Manila & Laoag City
joined her Creator on Saturday,
October 9, 2004 at the age of 64.

Her loving husband Ising, children Marlyn &
James Brown, Sid & Mimi, Lou, Mary,
grandchildren Savion & Nicolas, brothers, sisters,
relatives & friends request the pious readers to pray
for the eternal repose of her soul.

We will miss her unconditional love & selfless
dedication. We thank her for being the best wife,
mommy, sister, friend & lola.

Her remains lie in state at the Garden of Memories,
Bagong Calzada St., Ususan, Taguig, Metro Manila.
Interment to be announced later.

**DR. RAFAEL I. JIMENEZ**

of Mary Johnston Hospital,
Dasol, Pangasinan and Pasay City.

Has passed away on October 5, 2004 at the age of 55. Members of
his endearing family: brothers and sisters: Arsenio Jr. and Merle
Hemedes; Evelyn and Rey Trinidad, Imelda and Alan Paredes; Lydia
and Jessie Alfonso; Robert and Boots Licalalde; and Shirley and
Pansak Boonpongaa; nephews and nieces: Alfie & Lyn, Jay & Roma,
Pam and Mikey, Len, Jing & Eugene, Ja and Andre, Jorel, Je-Ann and
Justin; PV and Nikki; and Carl, grandchildren: Justin, Jaime, Isabel,
Alyssa, Alyanna, Gabby and Arianne, request the pious readers to
join them in prayers for the repose of the soul of their dearly beloved.

His remains lie in state at Santuario de San Antonio Mortuary
Chapel, Forbes Park, Makati City

Interment will be on Sunday, October 10, 2004 at 3:00 p.m. at
Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City

HOLY GARDENS MEMORIAL PARK

www.holygardens.com
3rd Fl. Unishop Complex, Quezon Ave., Alangin Rizal
Tel. No. 851-1711 to 15

The Best in Interment Services**FELIMON DE LEON SABANDAL**

November 22, 1935 - October 4, 2004

Date of Interment: October 10, 2004
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Place of Interment: Holy Gardens Memorial
Park, Taguig, Rizal
Wake: Arlington East Pasig City

Alfredo A. Joson

Born: April 28, 1945
joined his Creator on October 6, 2004
at the age of 59

His beloved wife Gloria Joson, nephews
Robert, Jayson, Elmer and Danilo; niece
Jasmin, together with relatives and friends
request the pious readers to pray for the
eternal repose of his soul.

Interment will be today, Sunday, October 10,
2004 at 2:00 p.m. at the Manila Memorial Park,
Pala-Pala, Dasmariñas, Cavite

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

ELENA MALLARI-QUEJADA

Who passed away in the Grace of our Lord
on September 28, 2004

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude &
sincerest appreciation to all those who in
countless ways supported us throughout
her illness, offered masses & prayers,
sent flowers & messages of sympathy & in other
ways consoled and comforted us
in our hour of bereavement.

CLASSIFIEDS**PMO, WRI-PAT (SJOM) SIGN MOA**

The Privatization and Management Office (PMO) headed by Chief
Privatization Officer Ricardo S. Canlas joins the officers of the
WRI-PAT (SJOM) Neighborhood Association led by its president,
Mandy P. Soriano in the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement
for the acquisition of the government-owned property in Purok
Pag-Asa B, Barangay Bagong Sikat, San Jose Occidental Mindoro
through the Community Mortgage Program of the National Home
Mortgage Finance Corporation (NHMF). Shown seated, from
left are Barangay Chair Tony E. Espiritu, CPO Ricardo S. Canlas,
Mandy P. Soriano and project originator Fa. R. Ilagan of Feeder,
Inc. (at the back are) Bles Pedro, and lawyer John G. Raniola Jr.

In Loving Memory

On the
First Death Anniversary
of Our Dearest Daddy

**ANTONIO R.
MACARANAS**

who passed away on October 10, 2003.

Holy Masses will be offered today at the following churches:

Our Lady of Peace & Good Voyage	7:00 AM
Antipolo City	
Holy Gardens Memorial Park	6:00 AM
Taguig, Rizal	
Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish	6:00 AM
Brookside, Cainta, Rizal	
Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish	7:00 AM
Old San. Mesa, Manila	
Holy Trinity Parish	6:15 AM
Bulwer-Batic, Manila	
Santuario del Sto. Cristo	7:00 AM
San Juan, Metro Manila	
Our Lady of Light Parish	7:00 AM
Cainta, Rizal	
St. Brendan Church	8:00 AM
Los Angeles, California	
St. Paul's Catholic Church	5:15 PM
Muehlen, Illinois (Oct. 6)	
St. Michael's Redemptorist Church	
Chicago, Illinois	

His family requests relatives and friends to pray
for the eternal repose of his soul.

**NAPOLEON
ESCOTO FULAY**

of Gubat, Sorsogon and Palmdale, California, U.S.A.

Peacefully joined our Lord and his
parents Antonio and Rosario Fulay
on Sunday, October 3rd, 2004 at the age of 70.

His loving wife Ariadne Mison Fulay; son Adrian and
wife Carrie Schroeder; daughter Athena, brothers and
sisters Ernesto, Edgar, Romeo, Lilia and Araceli, nieces,
nephews, relatives and friends request your prayers for
the repose of his soul

His body lies in state at La Funeraria Paz, G. Araneta Ave.,
Quezon City.

Funeral mass will be at 9:00 a.m.
at La Funeraria Paz on Wednesday,
October 13th, 2004. Interment will
follow immediately at
Himlayang Pilipino,
Tandang Sora, Quezon City

We design **OBITUARIES** for free.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform to all valued customers that starting last
September 01, 2004, MRS. RHODORA TITO ADARAYAN a.k.a.
ADORA a.k.a. MA. FORTUNATA F. TITO is no longer connected
to us (SHELL CUBAO CANVAS & UPHOLSTERY SUPPLY).

Any transaction to her after the said date our company is
not liable.
JCS Oct 10 2004

CLASSIFIEDS**NOTICE**

MA. LUISA "MALOU" S. APODERADO

is no longer connected with us effective October 5, 2004

COMGLASCO AG CORPORATION
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Legaspi Village, Makati City

(1111-4111) 10, 2004



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCIAL GENERAL SERVICES OFFICE
Provincial Capitol, Dapog City
Tel. # (065) 212-3581 Telefax # (065) 212-6492

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Provincial Government thru the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) hereby invites
eligible manufacturers, suppliers and/or distributors to apply for Eligibility and to Bid for the
supply of goods categorized as follows:

APPROVED BUDGET

a.) Construction/Electrical Materials	P 1,705,725.10
b.) Spare Parts/Tires/Automotive Supplies	2,771,260.00
c.) Agricultural Supplies and Equipment	200,166.97
d.) Office Supplies	399,415.50
e.) Office Other Equipment	1,543,264.00
f.) IT Equipment	658,222.00
g.) Drugs/Medicine	3,437,848.00
h.) Medical/Laboratory/Dental Supplies and Equipment	4,026,800.00
i.) Oil and Lubricants	422,864.50
j.) Food Stuff	459,100.00

Schedule of Activities:

	Date	Time
1.) Issuance of Bid Documents	October 4-13, 2004	
2.) Pre-Bid Conference	October 14, 2004	10:00 AM
3.) Opening of Bids		
a.) Construction/Electrical Materials	October 26, 2004	10:00 AM
b.) Spare Parts/Tires/Automotive Supplies	October 26, 2004	10:00 AM
c.) Agricultural Supplies and Equipment	October 26, 2004	10:00 AM
d.) Office Supplies and Equipment	October 26, 2004	10:00 AM
e.) Office Other Equipment	October 26, 2004	10:00 AM
f.) IT Supplies and Equipment	October 26, 2004	10:00 AM
g.) Drugs/Medicine	October 27, 2004	10:00 AM
h.) Medical/Laboratory/Dental Supplies and Equipment	October 27, 2004	10:00 AM
i.) Oil and Lubricants	October 27, 2004	10:00 AM
j.) Food Stuff	October 27, 2004	10:00 AM

All activities shall be held at the Provincial General Services Office, Capitol Building,
Dapog City unless announced otherwise.

Interested parties may inquire from the Secretariat Bids and Awards Committee,
Provincial General Services Office (PGSO), Capitol Building, Dapog City regarding eligibility
requirements. Bid Documents shall be issued upon payment of a non-refundable amount of
Five Hundred (P500.00) Pesos.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defects or
irregularities found therein or to accept the offer found to be most advantageous to the
government.

(Sgd.) ENMANUEL S. LADERA
OC - Provincial General Services Office
Coordinating Bids and Awards Committee

(PGSO - DSWD) 10.10.2004



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development
Batasan Pamantasan Complex, Constitution Hills
Quezon City
Telephone No. 931-8101 to 87

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

ITS No. GOP/04-DSWD-004

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), a national
government agency, through its Bids and Awards Committee
(BAC), is inviting duly accredited Health Maintenance Organizations
(HMO) to apply for eligibility and to bid for the **PROVISION OF
HEALTHCARE SERVICES FOR DSWD EMPLOYEES NATIONWIDE
THROUGH A HEALTH CARD SYSTEM.**

The program shall cover 2,538 regular, casual and contractual/termi-
nated employees (with Phil. Health Insurance) which will be funded
with a fixed available amount of **ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED
PESOS (Php 1,800)** and 1,845 MOA workers (without Phil. Health In-
surance) for **TWO THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED SIXTY PESOS
(Php 2,960)** for a 12-month coverage for both.

For the purpose of this bid, eligible bidders shall be those who have
accredited hospital and clinics in ALL regions of the country

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Bids
and Awards Committee Secretariat 2nd floor, DSWD, Batasan
Pamantasan Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City with telephone nos.
951-7116.

A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested
bidders upon submission of a letter of intent and upon payment of a
non-refundable fee of Pnp 2,500.00.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on November 3, 2004 at 9:00 a.m.
to be held at the Administrative Conference Room, 2nd floor, DSWD,
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

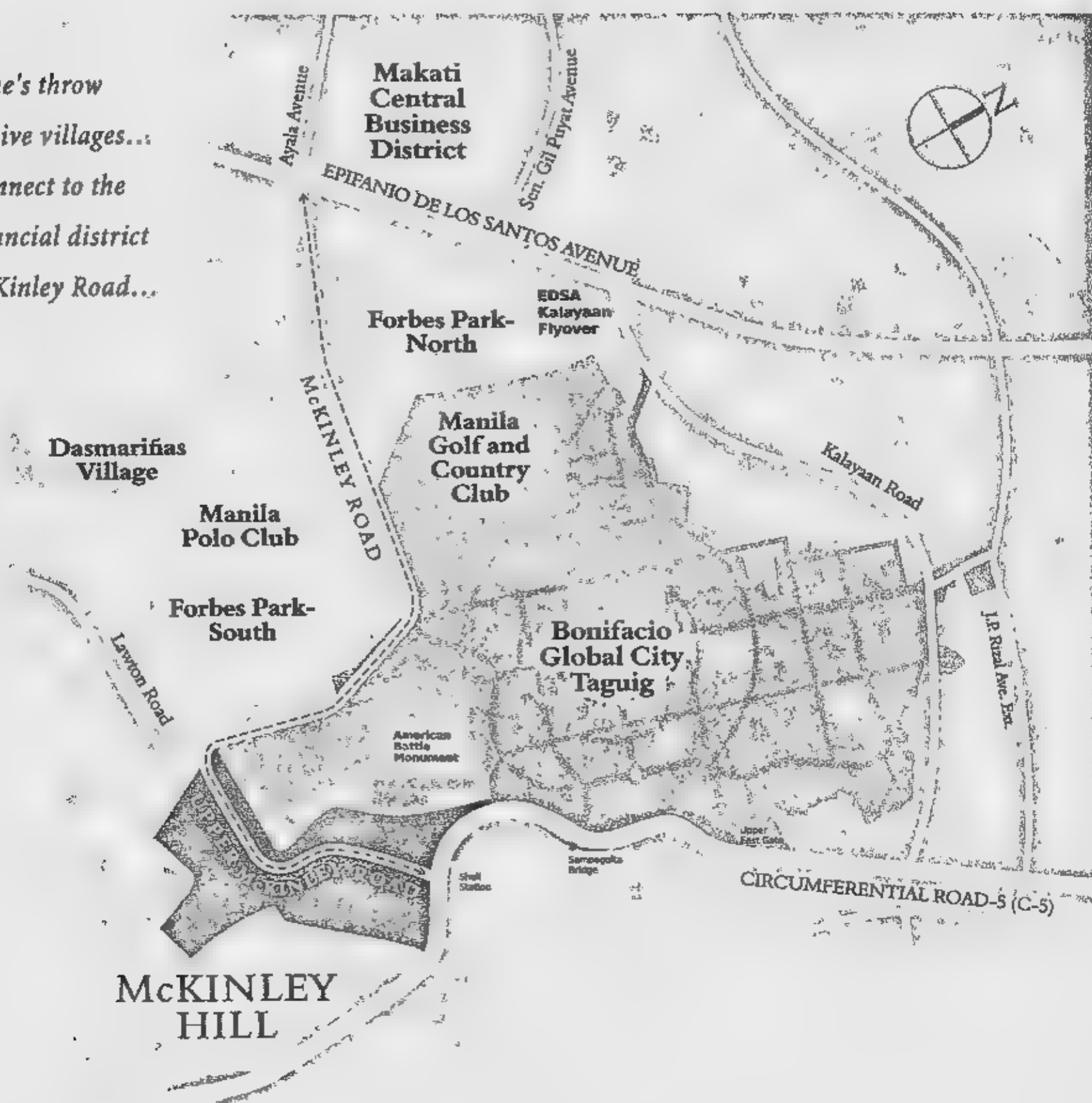
Sealed applications for eligibility and bid proposal, together with the bid
security, must be delivered to the BAC Secretariat on or before Novem-
ber 16, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. Thereafter, eligibility and bid envelopes will
be opened in the presence of bidder's representative that chooses to
attend. Opening of bids will be held at the Administrative Conference
Room, 2nd floor DSWD, Constitution Hills, Quezon City. Late bids
will not be accepted.

DSWD hereby reserves the right to reject any or all applications for
eligibility and to bid, to waive any formalities therein and/or accept the bid
as may be considered most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) CELIA C. YANCCO
Undersecretary and
Chief, BAC II

(DSWD) October 10 & 17 2004

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of the most exclusive villages...
and soon to connect to the
business and financial district
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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2004



Sunday LIFE STYLE

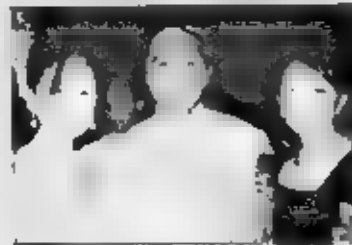
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Inquirer life name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 2866 (Smart)
or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso



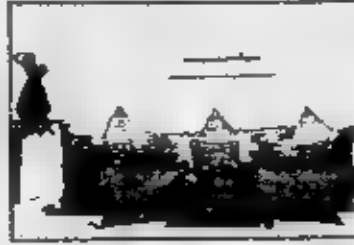
RIO remembered

/D1



MELDYCO'S Marian night

/F1



TWO units, one owner

/I1



'MELISSA Watch' begins today

/C2

RAFFY LEMMA

MAY PA-McDo KADA PADALA!

SMART PADALA THE WORLD'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL CASH REMITTANCE THROUGH TEXT PA-BLOWOUT

FREE MEALS for every...

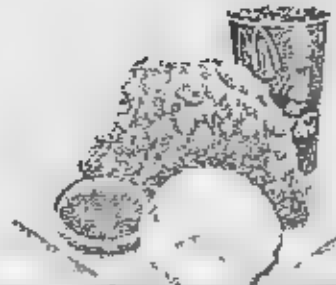
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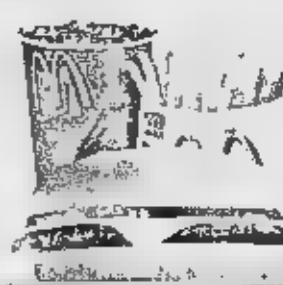
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MELISSA Martel (second from left) with lawyers Kristine Esquivara, Rowena Guanzon and Howard Calleja.

RAFFY LERMA

Battered and meek no more

By Rowena C. Burgos

MELISSA Mercado Martel had perfect recollection of the afternoon on Aug. 26, 2003 when her world collapsed.

She had just arrived home from the US embassy to get a student's visa for Anton and Nikki. The family would be moving to the US temporarily, and early that afternoon the two kids asked permission from their father, Robert Martel, to go to the International School to say goodbye to their classmates.

Roby Martel was in one of his inexplicably foul moods in their Ritz Towers unit in Makati, she recalled. She was watching television in the master bedroom, where his two kids sleep, when he entered the room and fired at Anton's PlayStation tapes.

Angrily ordering the maid to press his shirt, he cursed her, "Leche ka. Magbuhay kang pumasok kayo ng amo mo sa buhay ko, nagkaleche-leche na."

He then vented his anger at Melissa. He lunged at her, strangled her, then dragged her to the bed and beat her up some more.

When she managed to free herself, he went to the living room, started throwing around the picture frames, called to her and ordered her to cut out pictures of their youngest son.

When she obeyed and threw the pictures at the nearest trash can, he shouted at her, ordering her to throw them in the kitchen.

In the kitchen, Melissa said he again attacked her. He ordered a bodyguard to bring her to their bedroom. Roby rushed inside, but she pleaded with the guard not to bring her to the room because she feared she would kill him. Apparently, the guard took pity on her.

Enraged, Roby stalked out of the room and went back to the kitchen, holding a gun. He cursed her, "P—ina mo, Castillo (the guard's name), pera ko o buhay niya?" The guard replied, "Buhay po, sir."

They rushed out. She took the stairwell and escaped.

The bullet hit Melissa in the stomach, but she was so stunned she did not double up. She begged the guard to bring her out as she tried to push herself to the service door.

When the guard seemed to obey her, Roby warned him, "P—ina mo, Castillo (the guard's name), pera ko o buhay niya?" The guard replied, "Buhay po, sir."

They rushed out. She took the stairwell and escaped.

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They rushed out. She took the stairwell and escaped.

Melissa Mercado-Martel endured an abusive and violent marriage for 20 years, ending with a fight that nearly cost her her life. Now she wants women to learn from her experience

between Roby and me. It has enlightened me to help other women in such situations I was in and give them courage to speak out. I know that in the end justice will be served."

Gender violence

Around the world, among women aged 15-44, gender-based violence accounts for more death and ill-health than cancer, traffic injuries and malaria put together, according to a World Bank 1993 study.

Country studies of Unicef in 2000 also estimate that 20-50 percent of women have experienced domestic violence, making it the most prevalent form of gender-based violence.

In the Philippines, battering is the most prevalent, according to the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

Recognizing gender-based violence as a major public health concern and a violation of human rights, Congress passed Republic Act No. 9262, or the Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004, which took effect last March 27.

The Anti-VAWC law is the result of a nine-year lobby by advocates of women and children's protection led by the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women. It is also in keeping with the obligations of the Philippine government under the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (Cedaw), which the Senate ratified in 1981.

But the good features of the law will come to naught if the law is not implemented.

Akbayan party-list representative Maria Theresita Montiveros-Baraquel has filed a resolution calling for an inquiry into the status of laws that prohibit violence and abuse against women.

The inquiry may have a bearing on the Melissa-Roby Martel case.

Melissa stands out among thousands of women who have suffered abuse, according to Melissa's lawyer, Rowena Guanzon.

Guanzon said Melissa was probably the first woman in the country to have gotten a temporary protection order against her husband. Melissa is now seeking that the order be made permanent.

Violence against women, the law says, includes physical, sexual, psychological and economic abuse.

"It is often known as gender-based violence because it evolves in part from women's subordinate status in society," said Guanzon, who, as a consultant to Senate President Franklin Drilon, helped draft R.A. 9262.

"Many cultures have beliefs, norms and social institutions that legitimize and therefore perpetuate violence against women. The same acts that would be punished if directed at an employer, a neighbor or an acquaintance often go unchallenged when men direct them at women, especially within the family." Guanzon said violence against women was the most pervasive yet least recognized human rights abuse in the world. It is also a profound health problem, sapping women's energy and eroding their self-esteem.

"The majority of women who are abused by their partners are women many times," Guanzon said. "In fact, an atmosphere of terror of ten permeates abusive relationships."

Abusive

Melissa claimed her marriage to Roby was an abusive relationship. She said she silently endured the battering for 20 years.

"People often ask me why I stayed in such relationship for so many years," she said. "I was madly in love with Roby then. I was dependent on him. He liked to be pampered and I was the perfect submissive wife. When he did something wrong, he said sorry and courted me again to go back to him. I wanted the

marriage to work. I was scared to leave him because I didn't know where to go."

Melissa's friends have formed an advocacy group called Melissa Watch that would work to draw more attention to the physical, psychological and sexual abuse of women, and to stress the need for action.

"They need to challenge the widespread attitudes and beliefs that support violent behavior against women," Guanzon said.

On Oct. 27, the group will hold a forum to raise awareness about the Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act.

Missing her kids

The Court of Appeals has restrained the Makati RTC from continuing to hear Melissa's request for permanent protection from her husband and for her children to be turned over to her custody.

In the CA hearing, her children Paolo, 23, Nikki, 17, and Anton, 11, manifested in a letter their preference to stay and live with their father.

But a lawyer for Melissa, Howard Calleja, said they doubted if the letter truly reflected the sentiments of the children. He explained that in the Makati RTC hearings, they had asked four times for the children to appear for cross-examination, but Roby Martel refused.

Under R.A. 9262, a victim can file a petition for temporary and permanent protection order, and the court must issue a temporary protection order (TPO) on the same day the petition was filed. The TPO is effective for 30 days, extendible until the court decides whether to make it permanent or not.

A TPO grants a woman or her child immediate relief and orders a respondent to stay away from the petitioner, leave the residence regardless of ownership, deliver a vehicle to the petitioner, surrender firearms and put up a bond to keep the peace.

In the case of Martel vs. Martel, the TPO ordered the respondent to put up a cash bond of P10 million and gave temporary custody and support of the minor children to the petitioner as well as support for her.

"But until now, Roby has not complied with the TPO," Melissa said.

On her own

Although Roby settled Melissa's bills at Makati Medical Center when she was confined there for three-and-a-half months, and her house rental for one year, she said she had to worry about her daily expenses and medicine for her pancreas. Her medicine amounts to P40,000 a month.

"My parents and siblings give me some help," she said. "I also have my own savings, but until when will it last? I'm jobless, still recuperating and have no financial means at the moment. This is why I had to file a civil case against Roby."

She said she wouldn't give up the cases "for the sake of my children."

"I'll continue to fight for I love them so much. I terribly miss them. I wish we were back in each other's arms."

What kept her strong through all the challenges, she said, was her faith in God. She goes to Mass and visits the Blessed Sacrament daily. She said nuns and priests gave her spiritual and moral counsel.

Melissa said she was now devoted to the cause against spousal abuse. "I'm enjoying my new-found independence," she said.

Although she still cries when giving testimonies to groups, she has learned to rise above the situation. "After so many times talking about it, you'd become empowered. What happened between Roby and me was a blessing in disguise."

At present, Melissa is involved in Santuario

IN THE KNOW

- About one out of 10 women or 2.16 million Filipino women have experienced physical abuse, according to a Social Weather Stations survey in November 2003.
- Majority said that the harm was inflicted by their partners, that is, their husbands, boyfriends or live-in partners.
- An even larger percentage of men—12 percent or 2.8 million—admitted having physically harmed someone, the majority of whom were their wives, girlfriends and live-in partners, according to the same survey.

Penalties

- Any person found guilty of committing acts of violence as stated in the Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act shall be punished with a minimum sentence of arresto mayor (one month and one day to six months) to a maximum of prision mayor (six years and one day to 12 years).
- If the victim is pregnant, or the act is committed in the presence of her child, the maximum period of penalty prescribed for the offense committed shall be applied.
- In addition to imprisonment, the perpetrator shall also pay a fine of not less than P100,000 but not more than P300,000 and to undergo mandatory psychological counseling or psychiatric treatment.

Protection orders

A protection order may be sought under the Anti-VAWC Act to protect a woman or child victim from further harm, minimize any disruption in her daily life and enable her to independently regain control over her life.

The protection orders may include any, some or all of the following:

- Prohibition of the offender from committing or threatening to commit personally any act of violence.
- Prohibition of the offender from harassing, annoying, telephoning, contacting or otherwise communicating with the victim, directly or indirectly.
- Removal and exclusion of the offender from the residence of the victim regardless of ownership of the residence;
- Directing the offender to stay away from the victim at a distance specified by the court and to stay away from the residence, school, place of employment or any specified place frequented by the victim and any designated family or household member.
- Directing lawful possession and use by the victim of an automobile and other essential personal effects, regardless of ownership, and directing the appropriate law enforcement officer to accompany the victim to the residence of the parties to ensure that the victim is safely restored to the possession of the automobile and other essential personal effects, or to supervise the victim's or offender's removal of personal belongings.
- Granting a temporary or permanent custody of a child/children to the victim.
- Directing the offender to provide support to the woman and/or her child if entitled to legal support.
- Prohibition of the offender from any use or possession of any firearm or deadly weapon and order him to surrender the same to the court for appropriate disposition by the court, including revocation of license and disqualification to apply for any license to use or possess a firearm. If the offender is a law enforcement agent, the court shall order the offender to surrender his firearm and shall direct the appropriate authority to investigate on the offender and take appropriate action on matter.
- Restitution for actual damages caused by the violence inflicted, including, but not limited to, property damage, medical expenses, childcare expenses and loss of income.
- Directing the Department of Social Welfare and Development or any appropriate agency to provide the victim what she may need; and
- Provision of such other forms of relief as the court deems necessary to protect and provide for the safety of the victim and any designated family or household member, provided victim and any designated family or household member consents to such relief.
- Any of the relief provided under this section shall be granted even in the absence of a decree of legal separation or annulment or declaration of absolute nullity of marriage.

Who can file for a petition for protection order?

- The victim
- Parents or guardians of the victim
- Relatives within the fourth civil degree of consanguinity or affinity
- Officers or social workers of the OSWD or social workers of local government units
- Police officers, preferably those in charge of women and children's desks
- Punong Barangay or Barangay Kagawad
- Lawyer, counselor, therapist or healthcare provider of the victim
- Concerned responsible citizens, at least two, of the city or municipality where the violence against women and their children occurred and who has personal knowledge of the offense committed

SOURCE: POI ARCHIVES, RANO 9162

PREPARED BY POI RESEARCH

de San Antonio's JPIC Scholarship Committee, an outreach program that awards scholarships to the poor. She's also preparing for the Oct. 17 Assumption affair where she hopes to "rekindle friendships." She plans to work next year, "when everything is over." She is, in short, a woman reborn.

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph

Pinoy kids get a royal champion

By Linda B. Bolido

CAN'T go to London to visit the queen? Why not have dinner here with a princess instead? You will not only be conserving precious foreign exchange at this time when Filipinos are called upon to tighten their belts, you will also be helping a few hundred street children

Princess Caroline, wife to Prince Ernst of Hanover and elder of two daughters of Prince Rainier of the principality of Monaco and the late Hollywood screen goddess Grace Kelly, will be breaking bread with charitable-minded Filipinos for the benefit of Amade Philippines, an affiliate of Amade Mondiale of Monaco, a non-government organization supporting activities for the benefit of children in developing countries that her mother founded.

The princess will also visit residences for children set up by the Virlane Foundation and have lunch with them afterwards. Virlane, which was founded by Frenchman Dominique Lemay, is Amade's main beneficiary in the Philippines. It operates 12 residential homes for 300 youngsters, including those abandoned and neglected, special children, kids with a history of drug abuse, and young prostitutes.

Aiming for ownership

The special royal dinner at the Makati Shangri-La Hotel on Oct. 25—co-chaired by Chito Madrigal Collantes, Ben Zobel, Meldy Cojuangco and Mary Prieto—aims to raise funds to enable Virlane to purchase property that will become the permanent sites of its residences. At present, the foundation leases

the various residences in Manila, Makati and Batangas where its wards stay.

Marietta Santos, one of the prime movers of the fund-raising dinner, pointed out that some 90 percent of Virlane's funding come from foreign donations. The foundation wants to raise the 10-percent local counterpart and be able to buy property where it could build permanent homes for the children so it could save the sizeable amount spent on rent, among others.

Lemay said Virlane, which care for youngsters from infancy to their early 20s, has a total of 25 programs designed to give children a good foundation in life, prepare them for reintegration into society and give them the tools to lead productive and useful lives.

Thousands helped

Set up some 16 years ago, the foundation has already helped some 7,000 children. Some of them are now also making their own contributions to the foundation that nurtured them.

For the Oct. 25 dinner, guests will have a chance to hobnob with a true blue-blood and partake of a royal meal. Shangri-La chefs are preparing a special menu fit for a princess, complemented with the finest wines.

Guests will also be able to bring home a special gift pack from Chanel courtesy of Rustan's, listen to musical numbers from the Virlane Children's Choir and watch an Inno Sotto fashion show particularly prepared with a royal audience in mind.

Tickets for the fund-raising dinner are priced from P100,000-P1 million for a place of honor where Princess Caroline will sit. Individual tickets may be bought starting at P10,000. Tickets will be on sale until Oct. 23.

Call 8962289, fax 8955232 or e-mail virlane@virlane.org



Princess Caroline of Monaco carries on her mother's advocacy for children and lends her name to a fund-raising dinner for youngsters in need

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The Beacon School is an independent, non-profit, co-educational school modeled upon the best international educational practice. It is committed to providing a global education of the highest quality, rooted in an understanding of Filipino culture and traditions, to children of all nationalities. Currently in its fourth year of operation, the school has grown rapidly to reach nearly two hundred and forty students and forty-five faculty.

The school is located in fully air-conditioned premises in the tree-lined grounds of the Philippine Center for Population and Development in Chino Roces (Pasong Tamo) Extension, Taguig, Metro Manila.

Our rich and exciting academic programme is firmly based on the International Baccalaureate Primary Years and Middle Years Programmes. We are implementing both programmes as a candidate school. Our academic programmes are recognized by the Department of Education

Applications for enrollment for the 2005-2006 school year are now being accepted for all grade levels from Pre-School to Grade 8. Space is likely to be available at all grade levels, although at some levels this will be limited due to current enrolment. Applications will be received until 15 January 2005, after which date applications will only be received for grade levels in which space is available.

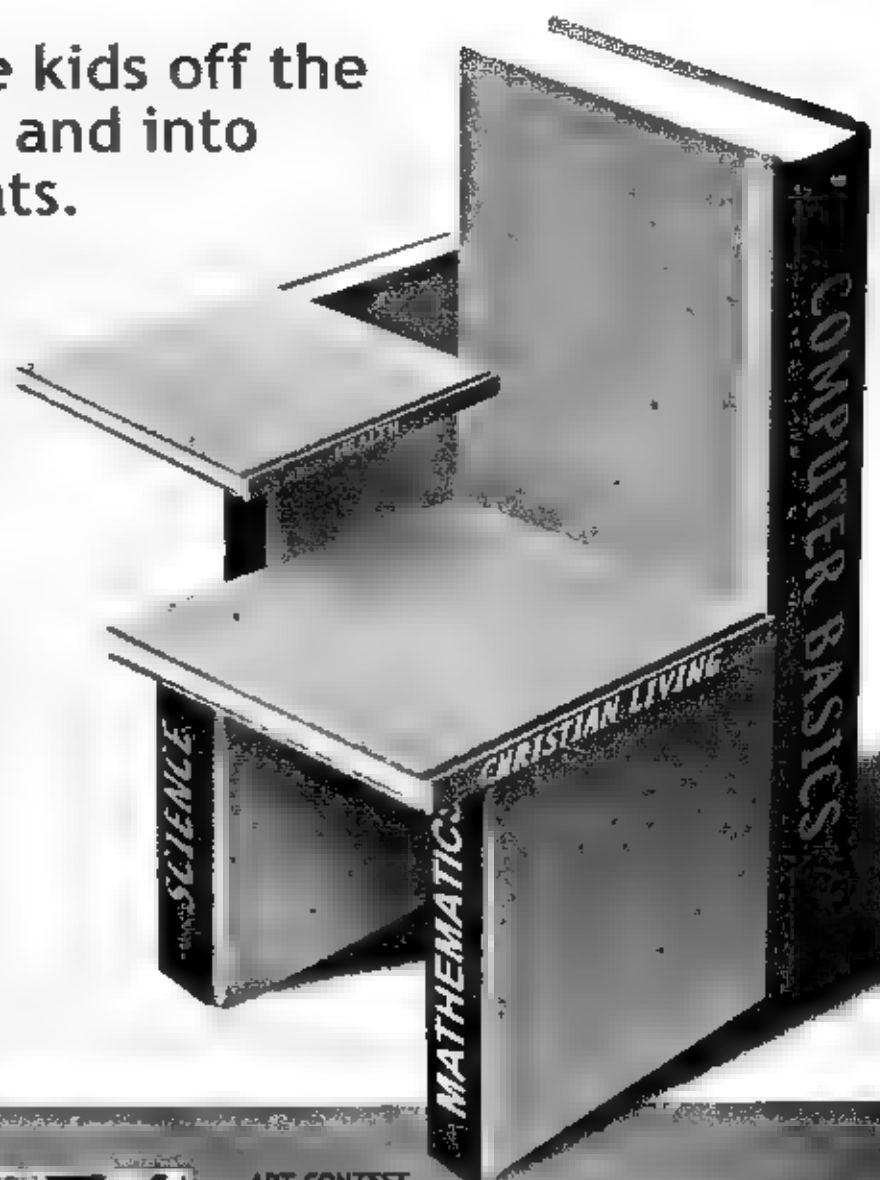
Parents who are interested in seeking enrolment for their children are invited to visit and tour the school. Please contact Mrs. Maricor Acenas (School Operations Manager) at The Beacon School, PCPD Building, 2332 Chino Roces Avenue Extension, Taguig, Metro Manila.

Phone (632) 810-5046; (632) 840-5040
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ART CONTEST

Oct. 21-22

Oct. 26-28

Oct. 29

Oct. 30

Goodwill Bookstore Glorietta Branch
Glorietta EDSA Mall (in front of King Philip)
Exhibit of Artworks at Glorietta EDSA Mall (in front of King Philip)
Judging at Goodwill Bookstore Glorietta Branch

ART WORKSHOP

Oct. 16, 23, 30 Goodwill Bookstore Glorietta Branch

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Remembering our Tita Rio

By Rachel Alejandro
Contributor

I'VE never dreamed of winning in a beauty pageant, having kids or taking care of someone else's children, running for office or becoming vice mayor, much less having to battle a painful disease while ministering to and uplifting those in need. And yet if you were to ask me who was the woman I admired most, I would say, "My Tita Rio."

The moment my sister Barni and I learned she was gone, countless memories flashed through our minds.

When we met, she was 17, having just won the Masya ng Pilipinas. The world was at her feet. Young, smart and devastatingly beautiful, she had a bright future ahead.

Then she met our dad (Haji Alejandro). In a flash she had two instant kids while still growing up herself. She brought and picked us up from school. She would even take my sister Barni to some of her classes in Maryknoll, cooked our meals (okay, at that time it was mostly instant noodles and cream of mushroom soup from the can but, hey, we liked it and she did cook it for us), and was quite a disciplinarian.

I remember when I was 8. She read an announcement of an audition for a musical. She convinced my dad to let me try out and drove me to the audition. I got the part. She was already pregnant with my brother Ali and just about ready to pop and yet she drove for me and waited for me at rehearsals every night.

As I started to grow up she turned from being a parent to a fun girl friend. I remember I so wanted to watch a Menudo concert but didn't have tickets. Tita Rio not only got us in but managed to talk her way into getting us front-row seats after telling everyone it was my birthday (it wasn't).

Barni and I would tell her all our secrets, spend all night talking about boys and relationships. She would always tell us to respect ourselves first if we wanted to be treated with respect.

The minute I knew I was in love, she was the first one I told to about it. And minutes before

she walked down the aisle to marry Charlie (Cojuangco), she called me, crying, "Ata (she called me that because I am ate to Barni and Ali), I'm getting married!"

It was a bit sad that she was entering a new family and I feared that I would be relegated to a closed chapter in her life, but she proved

REMEMBERING/ D2



TITA Rio, Rachel with sister Barni

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Barni and I told her all our secrets... the minute I knew I was in love, she was the first one I told to about it



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WITH son Ali and me



TITA Rio turned from being a parent to a fun girl friend when I grew up.

LOGOS

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

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Remembering our Tita Rio

By Rachel Alejandro
Contributor

I'VE never dreamed of winning in a beauty pageant, having kids or taking care of someone else's children, running for office or becoming vice mayor, much less having to battle a painful disease while ministering to and uplifting those in need. And yet if you were to ask me who was the woman I admired most, I would say, "My Tita Rio."

The moment my sister Barni and I learned she was gone, countless memories flashed through our minds.

When we met she was 17, having just won the Mutya ng Pilipinas. The world was at her feet. Young, smart and devastatingly beautiful, she had a bright future ahead.

Then she met our dad (Haji Alejandro). In a flash she had two instant kids while still growing up herself. She brought and picked us up from school. She would even take my sister Barni to some of her classes in Maryknoll, cooked our meals (okay, at that time it was mostly instant noodles and cream of mushroom soup from the can but, hey, we liked it and she did cook it for us), and was quite a disciplinarian.

I remember when I was 8. She read an announcement of an audition for a musical. She convinced my dad to let me try out and drove me to the audition. I got the part. She was already pregnant with my brother Ali and just about ready to pop and yet she drove for me and waited for me at rehearsals every night.

As I started to grow up she turned from being a parent to a fun girl friend. I remember I so wanted to watch a Menudo concert but didn't have tickets. Tita Rio not only got us in but managed to talk her way into getting us front-row seats after telling everyone it was my birthday (it wasn't).

Barni and I would tell her all our secrets, spend all night talking about boys and relationships. She would always tell us to respect ourselves first if we wanted to be treated with respect.

The minute I knew I was in love, she was the first one I told to about it. And minutes before

she walked down the aisle to marry Charlie (Cojuangco), she called me, crying, "Ate (she called me that because I am ate to Barni and Ali), I'm getting married!"

It was a bit sad that she was entering a new family and I feared that I would be relegated to a closed chapter in her life, but she proved

REMEMBERING/02



TITA Rio, Rachel with sister Barni

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Barni and I told her all our secrets... the minute I knew I was in love, she was the first one I told to about it



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WITH son Ali and me



TITA Rio turned from being a parent to a fun girl friend when I grew up.

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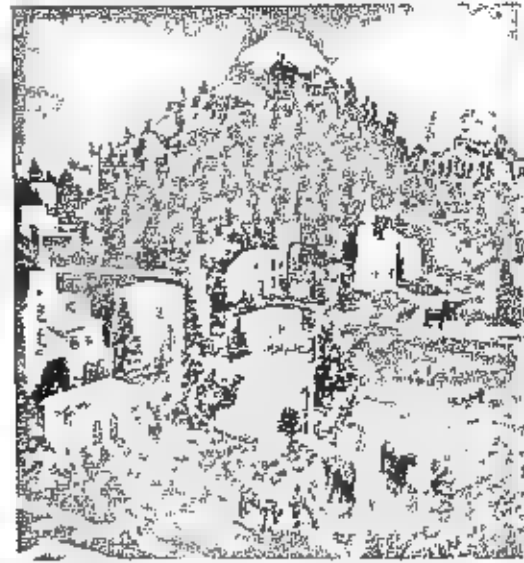




THE BELEN is the biggest of its kind in the country.



THE SCENE shifts from day to night every six minutes.



THE NATIVITY scene consists of over 200 figurines from

Rosary

finally gets theme-park treatment

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

If a picture paints a thousand words, then a diorama painstakingly executed by a Paete artisan must come up with a million.

Ortigas & Co. Ltd., developer of the Greenhills Shopping Center, wants the million words to shine through its Holy Family Gallery, a tribute to the Holy Rosary.

The gallery, behind the Chapel of the Holy Family, houses dioramas of the 20 mysteries of the Holy Rosary, designed by Italian artist and longtime Philippine resident Mario Viel, and sculpted by Justino A. Cagayat Jr., who comes from a long line of artisans from Paete, Laguna.

Cagayat sculpted from wood some 100 figures that stand about 6 inches tall over four months, and left no detail to chance. His sister Ma. Cecilia C. Acayan, lovingly hand-painted each piece.

The gallery also includes the Nativity scene, which features some 200 figures that depict how Bethlehem was like when Christ was born. It is the biggest of its kind in the Philippines.

Viel says that about half of the figures came from Italy, while the others were from the original Nativity Scene collection, first displayed 15 years ago at the lobby of the Greenhills Theater.

Bethlehem town

The display features shepherds and Bethlehem folk in their daily chores. Many of the figures move, and one can hear the sound of a fisherman catching fish, an old lady preparing food and an ironsmith pounding on steel.

With the Child Jesus in the manger and Mother Mary and St. Joseph forming the foreground, the town of Bethlehem is presented as a village, divided into rich and poor areas. The scene changes from day to night every six minutes.

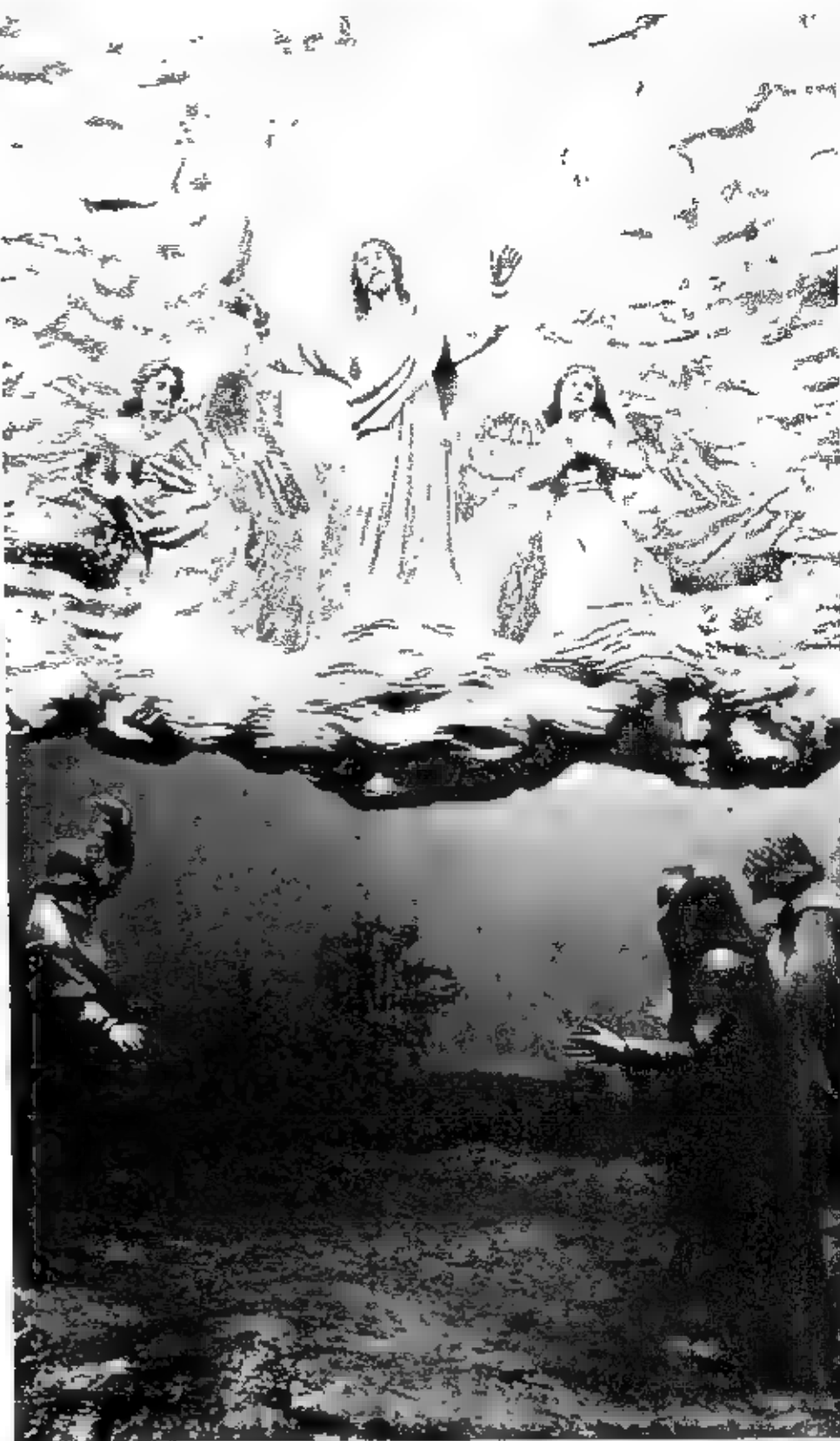
The catechetical projects follow the vision of



THE AGONY in the Garden



THE ASSUMPTION of the Blessed Virgin Mary



THE ASCENSION of Jesus to Heaven

The Ortigas up the unified Family Gallery tribute to the Rosary, to the Catholic faith and Marian devotion.



SCOURGING at the



THE BELEN depicts Bethlehem looked like

Ortigas and Co. promote the faith by putting faces to the mysteries of the Rosary and the BeLEN.

Ortigas also hopes to promote better understanding of the Rosary, a sorrowful mystery.

As Ortigas chief Drilon II says, the gallery for the Catholic Shopping Center.

"During Mass, we Christ the Nativity, the dioramas depict Jesus Christ, from Drilon says.

The dioramas are presented to the public of the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. You can now view the pe

Remembering our Tita Rio



WITH Jaime and Claudia, Tita Rio's kids with Charlie Cojuangco

From page D1

me wrong. We saw and talked to each other less frequently but our bond was never broken. She could always sense when I was in pain and always called or sent me Bible verses to read.

Last year, while on a trip to San Francisco, she picked me up to spend the day with her and her kids, Claudia and Jaime. It makes me smile just remembering how she introduced me to them as their aunt too, patiently explaining how I was the ate of their Kuya Ali.

Sick but hale

And even when the chemotherapy pouch was attached to her body, never did she make me feel she was sick. She was playful and loving that day, coaxing Claudia to sing me a song.

Ironically, she was always the one comforting all those around her. I remember looking at her beautiful children and how happy they were, and I realized only she could pull it off. In contrast, most people with terminal illness allow the disease to take over their lives.

Not my Tita Rio. With her, the disease became an opportunity, another avenue to reach out to people who suffer from a similar illness, to become an inspiration to Christians and non-Christians everywhere.

I constantly worried about her when she would exhaust herself over speaking engagements at different churches while personally visiting the sick and ministering to the dying in the hospitals. I wanted to tell her to slow down and rest more.



LOLA Nena Alejandro, me, Myrna de Mauro and Tita Rio

But there was no stopping Tita Rio. Not even cancer could stop her.

When I last visited her in August, she asked me to sing for her a song she had inspired me to write the year before, a Christian song called "Heart's Desire," a portion of which goes: "Many times in my life/I'd forget that you're in control/And I trusted in myself instead/But no matter how hard I try/All my efforts would fail/If I didn't have you by my side/So I close my eyes and pray/And with all my heart I say/That I give back all the praise/Lord I'm only yours/My heart's desire is to sing for you."

She told me it was long overdue that I give back the glory to the Lord for all He had blessed me with. She gathered her sisters and her kids, even my brother Ali

was there.

I sang the song since I noticed that it would sing to her.

I sent her a letter never she called me and the song over, ready knew it.

I said, "I love you, I sat close to her. I said, 'I love you. See you at the day. I have a spirit will I you've touched en Barna and



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Pillar



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operating officer Rex C.
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churchgoers in the Ortigas

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ed the Nativity scene were
one on Oct. 7, in celebration
Lady of the Rosary. People
permanent display for free




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GUYTO WILD HUNT



REWARDS



The wild chase is on for Inquirer's Guyto

Find Guyto coupon in the pages of Inquirer every day. Cut out and paste on the back of a newspaper drop form for a shot at winning prizes.

and the Inquirer celebrates its 13th anniversary from September 17 to December 17, 2004.

Prizes (One winner per item)

MONTHLY DRAW

October Draw
iPod
Olympus MU300
Epson 4202
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BlackBerry 7230
Canon A70 Digital
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November Draw
20 GB iPod
HP 450 Portable Printer
Olympus MU300
Epson 4202
Epson Printer
Panasonic X400
Motorola MPX 200
Motorola C380

Consolation
Palm Zire 72
iPod
Olympus 480
Epson 4202
Epson Printer
Panasonic X400
Panasonic X700
BlackBerry 7230
Canon A70 Digital
Motorola E398
Motorola C650
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iPod
20GB iPod
Motorola C650
Panasonic X400
Palm Zire 72
Epson CX5300 Printer
Canon A70 Digital

Grand Prize Toyota Altis 1.6J MT

d) There are two ways to meet entries:

1. Visit to
Guyto Wild Hunt: Inquirer 13th Anniversary Promo
at PDI Building Don Chino Rocas Avenue,
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
Drop in drop boxes located at the following
Robinsons Malls/branches (all branches)
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Glennville * Cinema Lobby
Glennville 4 Cinema Lobby
Greenbelt * Cinema Lobby
Greenbelt 1 Mall
Greenbelt 3 Customer Service
Greenbelt 3 Cinema Lobby
Alabang Town Center Mall
Alabang Town Center Cinema Lobby
Ayala Center Cebu Mall
Ayala Center Cebu Cinema Lobby
Metop (all branches)
LBC (all branches)
2. For the monthly draws, deadline of entries are on October 17 and November 22, 3pm, at the Philippine Daily Inquirer head office. Winners will be notified thru a phone call and registered mail from a Philippine Daily Inquirer representative. Non-winning entries per draw will be included in the succeeding draws. This list of monthly winners will be published within two weeks after the draw.
3. Deadline of entries for the grand draw is on December 14. Mailed-in entries must be received by December 17. Grand draw and consolation prize winners will be drawn on December 21, 2004 at 12nn. Grand prize winner will win a brand new Toyota Altis.
4. A winner can only win once per draw. If a name gets drawn more than once, he/she gets the prize of higher value. Prize categories are: monthly prize, consolation prize, and grand prize.

- h) All winners below 18 years of age need to be with their legal guardian to claim prize. Both the minor and the parent/guardian should present valid identification. The latter should also present proof that he/she is the legal guardian of the minor.
- i) Prizes are transferable but not convertible to cash.
- j) For more questions call Ms. Ching dela Cruz of Inquirer's Marketing Department at 897-8808 loc. 237.
- k) Metro Manila winners may claim their prizes at the Philippine Daily Inquirer office at the Philippine Daily Inquirer Building, Chino Rocas Avenue (Pascag Yano) corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City. Provincial winners may claim their prizes at the nearest Inquirer office indicated on the registered mail. Winners may claim their prize from October 18.
- l) All winners must present the following to an authorized Philippine Daily Inquirer representative:
 - (1) Two valid IDs with complete real name, picture and correct address. Photocopies of any of the two documents (i.e. birth certificate, marriage contract, SSS ID, driver's license, school ID and/or passport) should be submitted upon claiming of prize.
 - (2) Registered mail that the Philippine Daily Inquirer sent to the winner of the Guyto Wild Hunt raffle draw.
 - (3) Representative's valid identification and authorization letter from the winner (if prize is claimed through a representative).
- m) All prizes must be claimed within sixty (60) days from receipt of notification call and registered mail (whichever comes last) from an authorized Philippine Daily Inquirer representative.
- n) All unclaimed prizes after the said date shall be forfeited in favor of PDI with prior DTI approval.

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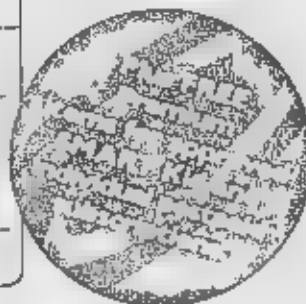
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Yasmin L. Querubin, daughter of former Cagayan, Ilocos Sur mayor Manuel R. Querubin and Alicia L. Querubin, will marry in military wedding rites 1st Lt. Juvegleen S. Escandor, son of PCI Eliseo C. Escandor Jr. (retired) and Vilma S. Escandor, on Oct. 29 at the Shrine of Jesus, The Way, The Truth and The Life Church, Reclamation Area, Pasay City. Rev. Fr. Remberto C. Selga will officiate.

Reception will follow at Patio, New Philippine Army Officer's Clubhouse, Fort Bonifacio, Makati City.

The bride will wear a textured silk chiton halter V-back gown embellished with cavalier and Japanese-patterned beadworks, rhinestones and pearls, and a one-piece bow at the back. The gown is by Njork by Miguel Francisco.



NGO UY

Sharon Sandra Co Uy, daughter of Rosita Co Uy and Adolf Tee Uy, will exchange vows with Carlito Tan Ngo, son of Ms. Ngo Tan Siu Loan, on Oct. 17 at the United Evangelical Church of the Philippines.

The bride will wear a fully embroidered ecru organza mixed with duchess sateen, beaded in Swarovski stones and sand crystals, with touches of periwinkle and three meters of detachable cathedral train. The gown was designed by Leonardo Co.



SAN JUAN-GALANG

Donna Galang, segment producer of GMA 7, married businessman Melvin San Juan on Oct. 3 at the Barasoain Church in Marikina, Bulacan. Principal sponsors were led by Gov. Luis "Chavit" C. Singson and Inquirer columnist Dolly Anne J. Carvajal.



SUDARIO DEBUT

Darlene Marie Villareal Sudario, daughter of Gaspar and Odette Sudario, recently celebrated her 18th birthday at the Equator Grille and Discotheque in Pook, Talisay City, Cebu.

The debutante is a student at the Southwestern University, Cebu City.

A NEW CENTER FOR LEARNING RIGHT INSIDE THE MALL.



Last September 13, people from all walks of life gathered inside Park Square I at the Ayala Center to witness another first from the leader in electronic banking.

BPI introduced the new BPI Express Learning Center (ELC). It's the first and only learning center that teaches people the ins and outs of using BPI's electronic banking channels.

Strategically located at Ayala Center's technological spot, Park Square I, admission in the BPI ELC is absolutely free. You don't have to register or sign up. You can simply drop by the mall and attend informative tutorial sessions in your free time. What's more, you get hands on training from BPI's knowledgeable tutors.

THIS IS FOR EVERYBODY WHO'S OUT TO LEARN.

Now, anybody who is interested to be taught new things about banking is welcomed in the BPI ELC. Students, professionals, parents, and the whole work force will surely enjoy learning a thing or two about the benefits of BPI's electronic banking channels. And yes, even Expat Pinoy and their beneficiaries can get free financial advice here. And what's cool about the whole thing is that you learn right inside the mall.

At the BPI ELC, you'll find an easier way to conduct all your banking transactions. Saving you time and energy so you can attend to the more valuable things in life: being with your family, bonding with friends, and relishing time for yourself.

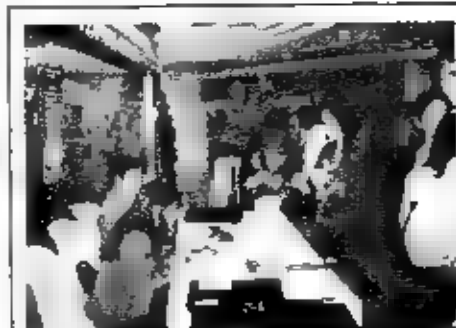
THIS IS THE FIRST LEARNING CENTER OF ITS KIND

Truly, the BPI ELC is one of a kind. Here, a new banking idea is introduced. You get to familiarize yourself with BPI's electronic banking channels and use it to your advantage via tutorial sessions.

These tutorial sessions cover the following: How to use the Express Online (the internet banking channel of BPI), Express Phone (the channel where self-service transactions are done over the phone), Express Payment System (cashless shopping) and soon, Express Connect (the full service mobile banking channel of BPI).

THIS IS THE RIGHT TIME TO LEARN AGAIN

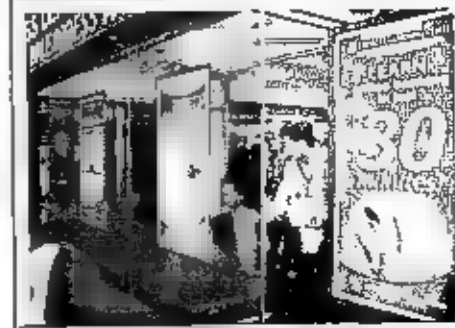
So what are you waiting for? Learn new things about electronic banking in the BPI Express Learning Center. You can drop by the BPI ELC in Park Square I, from Thursdays to Mondays during mall hours.



Different people gathered at Park Square I to witness the formal launch of the BPI ELC last September 13, 2004 at 9:30 am.



Mrs. Jolo [Name], BPI-VP Region 3 Head, Mr. [Name], Senior Division Manager for Ayala Land, Inc., Mrs. Mira Claravall, BPI-SVP for Marketing led the ribbon-cutting ceremony.



The BPI ELC is one cool place to learn how to do electronic transactions the BPI way.



An enthusiastic learner goes home with BPI Express Online at the ELC right inside the mall.



Drop by in your own free time! The BPI ELC is open from Thursdays to Mondays during mall hours.



Learn about BPI's electronic banking channels from the BPI ELC kiosk.



WITH their sponsors: (seated) Marietta Santos, Cynthia Carrion, Marimil Hernandez, Jerry Rollins, Sec. Norberto Gonzales, Sec. Leandro Mendoza, Gen. Cesar Garcia; (standing) INQUIRER editor in chief Letty Jimenez Magsanoc and Armita Rufino



WITH the groom's parents, Josee Mayo and Lt. Gen. Victor Mayo

MAYO-CHANG NUPTIALS

By the *light* of the silvery moon

IT is always a refreshing experience to witness an evening wedding ceremony and reception, more so if they are done in the private garden of the groom's ancestral home in Cubao, QC.

Ruby Chang, head pharmacist of Manila Doctors Hospital, recently tied the knot with Demetrius "Trus" Mayo, who works for his dad, Lt. Gen. Victor A. Mayo (ret.), deputy director general of the National Security Council.

The matrimonial evening was filled with lovely roses, enchanting strings and a sumptuous buffet dinner.

Although it was semi-formal, the ambience was elegant and the stunning gowns of the lovely sponsors added sparkle to the romantic candlelit dinner, as envisioned by the couple's adviser and godfather, director Fritz Ynfante.

The wedding sponsors were Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales, Transportation and Communication Secretary Leandro Mendoza, Nica chief Gen. Cesar Garcia, Naia general manager Edgardo Manda, Fritz Ynfante, Meneleus Perlas and Dr. Antonio Chang, Tourism Director Cynthia Carrion, Marimil Hernandez, Armita Rufino, Marietta Santos, Sonia Solilaps, Benilda Lai Chang and Inquirer editor in chief Letty Magsanoc.

Demetrius Mayo and Ruby Chang tie the knot in an enchanting evening garden wedding



AMBASSADOR Tony Rufino and Marimil Hernandez



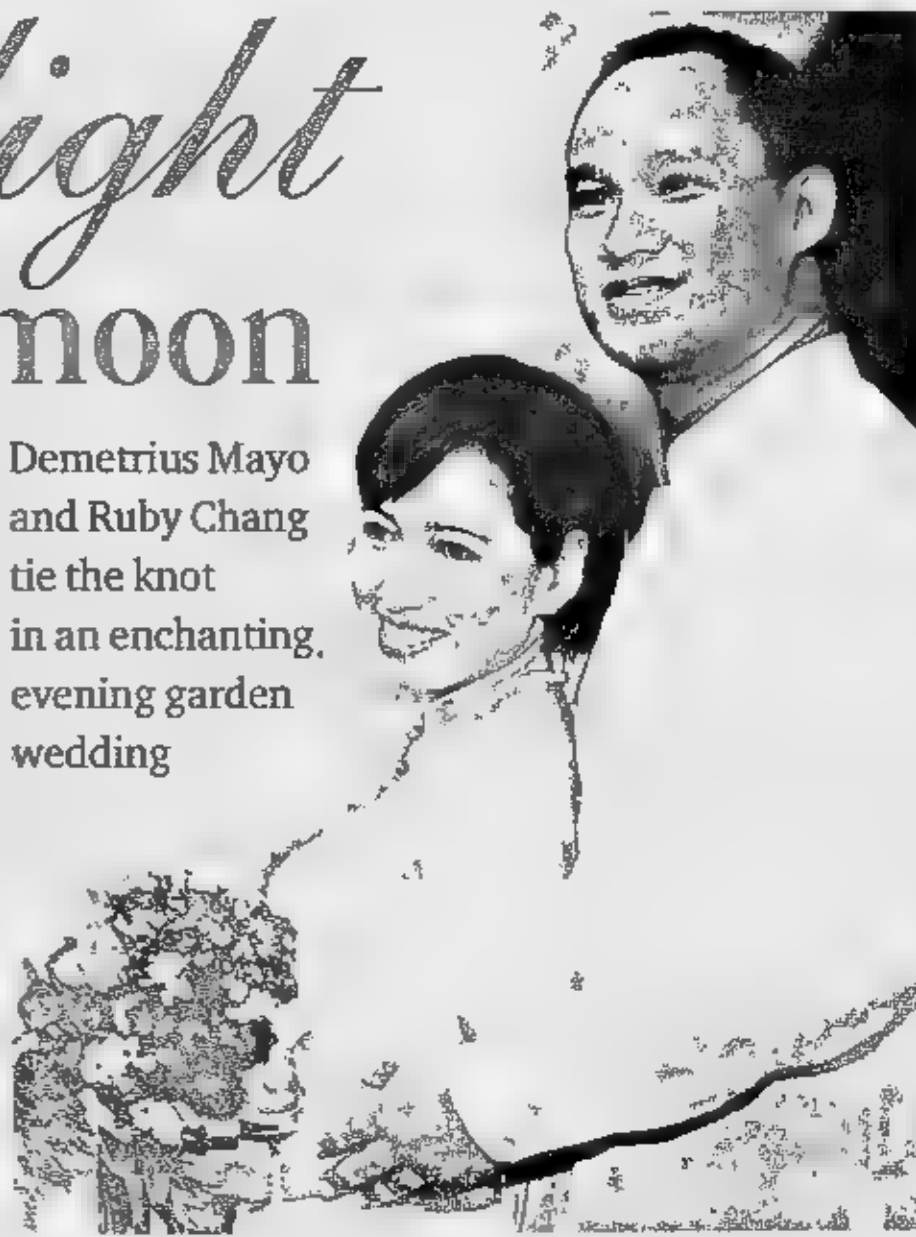
MARIETTA Santos and Jun



GROOM'S son Kyle with Bible



RING bearer Aaron Choi and flower girl Yari Mayo



Resplendent 'Nana Cedes' awes devotees

NANA Cedes," as the people of Barrio San Nicolas in Bacoor, Cavite, call their patroness, Nuestra Señora de la Merced, was resplendent on a flower-bedecked carroza prepared by Boy Ponce, who owns it, during the procession marking her feast day recently. People lined the streets, awed by the brightly lit carroza.

This was the first time the Virgin was venerated in full splendor after 150 years.

The devotion to the Virgin was revived when the diocese of Imus created the Holy Trinity Parish 12 years ago, with Fr. Frederick Tacderas as parish priest, then followed by Fr. Alex Tupas. The church then was merely a chapel.

The church would have been built 150 years ago, but the Spanish governor general at the time canceled the plans. Eventually the devotion was reintroduced and the faithful, even from other places, came to pray to seek the Virgin's help.

In English, the Virgin's title is Our Lady of Mercy. She is Ina ng Awa in Filipino.

The Virgin's resplendent vestment was lent by Boy Ponce, and her beautiful crown is owned by the family of Richard Mejia, chair of the *comite de festejos*.

Accompanying the Virgin were St. Nicolas de Tolentino, owned by Romy and Sabe Ugalde; San Pedro Nolasco, owned by Rolando Medina, St. Joseph and St. Raymond Peñafort, owned by Ricardo and Tesse Mejia.

The *hermanas mayores* came from Barrio Bayanan. The fiesta in 2005 will be taken care of by Barrio San Nicolas.

Imus Bishop Chito Tagle officiated at the Concebrated Mass attended by 21 priests, including

PURELY PERSONAL



Josephine Darang

Fr. Boyet Santiago, the present parish priest.

In his homily, Bishop Chito said to show mercy was not only to give material goods to the less fortunate, but to be in solidarity with them.

Candaba's three women

During the Spanish times in Candaba, Pampanga, a story

was told about three women in the nearby towns of Plaridel and Baluag asking for help for the construction of their "house." When a carpenter from Plaridel visited the chapel in Bahay Pare, Candaba, he saw at the altar three statues who looked like the women who visited their town.

They were St. Catherine of Alexandria, Nuestra Señora de la Merced and St. Lucy on the right. The new church's altar has only the 300-year-old image of the Virgin.

Dr. Alvin Balatbat, who is propagating the devotion to the Virgin, said a new retablo would be constructed and, if there was money, would have all three images again. The *retablo* designed by Clifford Chua is being made in case the canonical coronation of the Virgin is approved.

According to Dr. Alvin, the church was filled with people during the nine-day novena to the Virgin, especially on the fiesta itself. This year's *hermana mayor* is Juliana Manio vda. de Carpio.

Miracle of the scapular

The scapular of Our Lady of Mercy is being made by inmates of the Correct onal Institute for Women in Mandaluyong. The work was delayed when women doing the sewing were released. New sewers had to be found.

The mother of an employee of Baluag Transis is said to have re-



IMUS Bishop Chito Tagle with "Nana Cedes"

covered from near-death when the scapular of the Virgin was put around her and prayers were said on her behalf.

Imus fiesta

The diocese of Imus will celebrate the feast of their patroness, Our Lady of the Pillar at the Imus Cathedral. A concebrated Mass will be officiated by Bishop Chito Tagle at 9:30 a.m., Oct. 12.

In Malate Church, the Rosary in honor of the Virgin of the Pillar is being said before the 6 p.m. Mass. The Hermandad de Zamboanga led by Ludy Villahueza has faithfully held the nine-day novena to the Virgin through the years.

The group, which meets at the Aristocrat Restaurant after the morning Mass, supports 25 college scholars.

Binondo fiesta

When Lorenzo Ruiz was serving as sacristan in Binondo Church, which is dedicated to Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, he spent hours praying the Rosary before the Virgin.

Present-day devotees showed their love for the Virgin when they had a nine-day novena in her honor. On her feast day today, Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales will officiate in the Mass at 8:30 a.m. Msgr. Jerome Reyes is parish



KARAKOL precedes priests at Holy Mass in Barrio San Nicolas, Bacoor.



NUUESTRA Señora de la Merced during her fiesta in Candaba, Pampanga

priest.

Marian pilgrimage

Economy Tours and Travel is preparing a Marian pilgrimage Nov. 6-24. Fr. Ben Paderes, chaplain of St. Paul College in Vigan, Ilocos Sur, will be chaplain.

The itinerary includes Amsterdam, where Our Lady of All Nations is venerated. Banneux

to visit the shrine of the Virgin of the Poor, Beauring for Our Lady of the Golden Heart, Paris for the Miraculous Medal, Nevers, where the incorruptible body of St. Bernadette is located. Paray Le Monia, La Salette, Avignon, Lourdes; Zaragoza, where the miraculous image of Our Lady of the Pillar is enshrined. Madrid, Avila, Salamanca, Fatima, Santarem; Lisbon and Rome.

Text: Father Paderes at 0921 5698789 or Flor Ragunon at 0918-9279881, or call 3022519 or 3022667

Needing help

Maria Genilsa, 16, a first-year nursing student of Adamson University, needs help to finish her studies. Her father, Sergio, is our messenger and maintenance man at Ermita Church. You can call him at 5232752. Thank you for your kindness.

Perpetual vows

Sr. Manssa Teresa of the Eucharist will profess her perpetual vows at 9 a.m., Oct. 15, before Bishop Ernesto Salgado at the Carmelite Monastery in Laoag City.

Sr. Marissa was inspired to enter the convent when she read St. Therese of the Child Jesus in 1995.

First wedding photo congress Oct. 14-16



"CLOSE Up" by Pilar Tuson

THE FIRST Wedding and Portrait Photographers of the Philippines (WPPP) Photo Congress will be held Oct. 14-16 at the Philippine Trade Training Center (PTTC), beside the World Trade Center, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City.

Patterned after Wedding & Portrait Photographers International's Annual Convention in Las Vegas, the WPPP Photo Congress will feature the newest and latest offerings of the country's leading suppliers of photography-related products and services. Participants can attend seminars and network with top wedding photographers and videographers.

Presented by Kodak Phils., the

WPPP Photo Congress will exhibit the works of Pilar Tuson, the 2004 Photographer of the Year, as well as those of other members. Conducting the seminars are

Jorge Maniquis, Ibarra Deri, Edwin Tuyay, Ariel Javelosa, Emil Buencamino, Dino Lara and Bern Mejias, among others. Discounts on photography

products and equipment will be available to guests and delegates. Soon-to-wed couples will also enjoy discounts, special giveaways, a preview of the latest

wedding photography styles, and the widest selection of wedding photographers. Call 3719783, 4100032 or 0920-9083576.

Weddings at Bellevue

A gathering of elegance and sophistication from the country's top wedding specialists and exhibitors.

16 October 2004 (Saturday)

- 10am Opening Ceremony/ Ribbon Cutting
- 10am-9pm EXHIBIT at Laguna Ballroom
Event Style by Henry Pascual
- 11am Live Entertainment by The Sentimental Groove
- 2pm Make-up Demo & Skin Care Tips
Laura Mercier by Rustan's Essences
- 7pm GALA FASHION SHOW at Café d'Asie
Hosted by Johnny Litton
Directed by Jackie Aquino
Music by Bernie Pasamba Music Consultancy

Featuring bridal gowns and suits designed by the country's top fashion designers like:

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Rhett Eala
Len Guiao
Pepi Herrera
Rajo Laurel
Marianne Lazaro
Dennis Lustico
Anthony Nocom
Tippi Ocampo
Randy Ortiz
Frederick Peralta
Edwin Tan

VIP Cocktails with guest performer Calvin Milledo

17 October 2004 (Sunday)

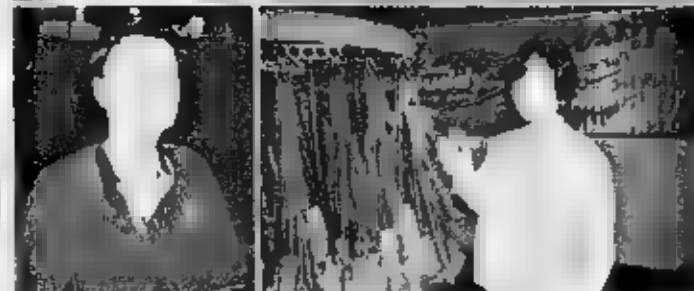
- 10am-9pm EXHIBIT at Laguna Ballroom
- 2pm Talk on Social and Wedding Etiquette
by John Robert Powers Inc.
- 5pm Live Entertainment by The Sentimental Groove and
Bernie Pasamba Music Consultancy

For inquiries, please call 771-8181

B
THE BELLEVUE
MANILA

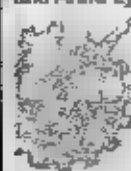


"SEALED with a Kiss" by Tuson



George Rondar's
SIM swaps to SMART
Mahirap kasi ang signal
doon sa amin (Ilocos).

Pepito Embion
and Anna Lyn R. Lumibao



SMART
Supply Financing

of GMB Franchise Developers
and Ravilyn Mayat-An
of Mayat-An Handicrafts

Eleanor Ayo,
4th year Commerce
student.

Certificate of Attendance
For having attended the SMART (NIN) and SEP (NIN) seminar at the University of Baguio in attendance of (name) and (name) on (date).

Empire & Company
Baguio City

University of Baguio

she will be able to work with more joy in her heart. As a member of GMB Franchise Developers, Butch knows what it takes to make it in the business world. He offers a few important reminders. First off, have the right attitude! Remember that life is full of opportunities, it's a matter of being able to spot one when it comes your way and make full use of it.

Something New

Observing the event unfold was an experience, for there was something unexpected that happened that day. The seminar was originally intended for graduating students of various colleges and new graduates who have not yet found jobs. "The SMART Entrepreneurial Program (SEP), was conceived to provide practical solutions to unemployment due to the rising number of unemployed graduates. The benefits of SEP extend to those who long graduated but continue to search for entrepreneurial ventures that will give them additional livelihood," says Boy Martrez, Head of Personal Mobile Services of SMART.

So on that day, we find older participants who walked in the gymnasium, brandishing their eagerness to learn something new. The likes of Anna Lyn and Pepito who graduated from college years ago, were sitting side by side with students, just as excited and just as curious.

As a mother of three, Anna Lyn wants to spend more time with her children. She left her 8 to 5 job, and set out to find something else that she can do aside from the van and tutorial service that she runs from home. The freedom that she has right now is making her enjoy her life more. And to all the mothers out there who want to be more than a homemaker, she says they too can choose to expand their horizon as she did.

Pepito is a 58-year-old alumnus of the University of Baguio. He came back to his Alma Mater in hopes of achieving yet another dream. After sending himself to college, he left for more than 10 years to work abroad.

Now, he is back in Baguio driving a cab for a living. Before he dies he would like to leave his eleven-year-old daughter something for the future. Pepito came because he wanted to start a business that requires only a small capital. He pointed out that this was the only seminar he's found that offers to teach him how to do that for free. Through SEP Pepito is being given an opportunity to realize that dream.

Manny on Entrepreneurship

"Businesses do transform societies. They not only shape our physical and our virtual worlds, but also create new needs, new hopes, and new dreams."

— Manuel V Pangilinan,
PLDT and SMART Chairman

It's not just about
the innovations we bring.



It's about
the opportunities we provide



The Challenge of Expanding Your Horizons, the challenge of SEP

In the cool climate of the City of Pines, a university gymnasium was steadily being filled up with curious, eager, and hopeful students of life. Here, six colleges came together to welcome an on-going lecture series on entrepreneurship. The program has successfully visited a number of institutions across the country in a mission to provide alternative opportunities for the youth. A wonderful view of the pine studded mountainside welcomes visitors as they enter Baguio University. Inside, let's get to know the not so young

participants who came to expand their horizons in search of worthwhile ventures and those who took the time out to share what they know.

Small Beginnings

Sitting humbly in the sidelines is a small lady with a pair of searching eyes and an earnest smile. Her name is Ravilyn Mayat-An. At forty, she has much to share about a business that started small. Born of hard work, perseverance, creativity, and a massive leap of faith, it not only gave her financial stability but an opportunity to help her community as well.

The Mayat-An Handicraft store is located at Asin Road, Baguio City. Nine years of commitment has produced goods that are today being exported to countries like Japan and Italy, prized for their unique design and craftsmanship.

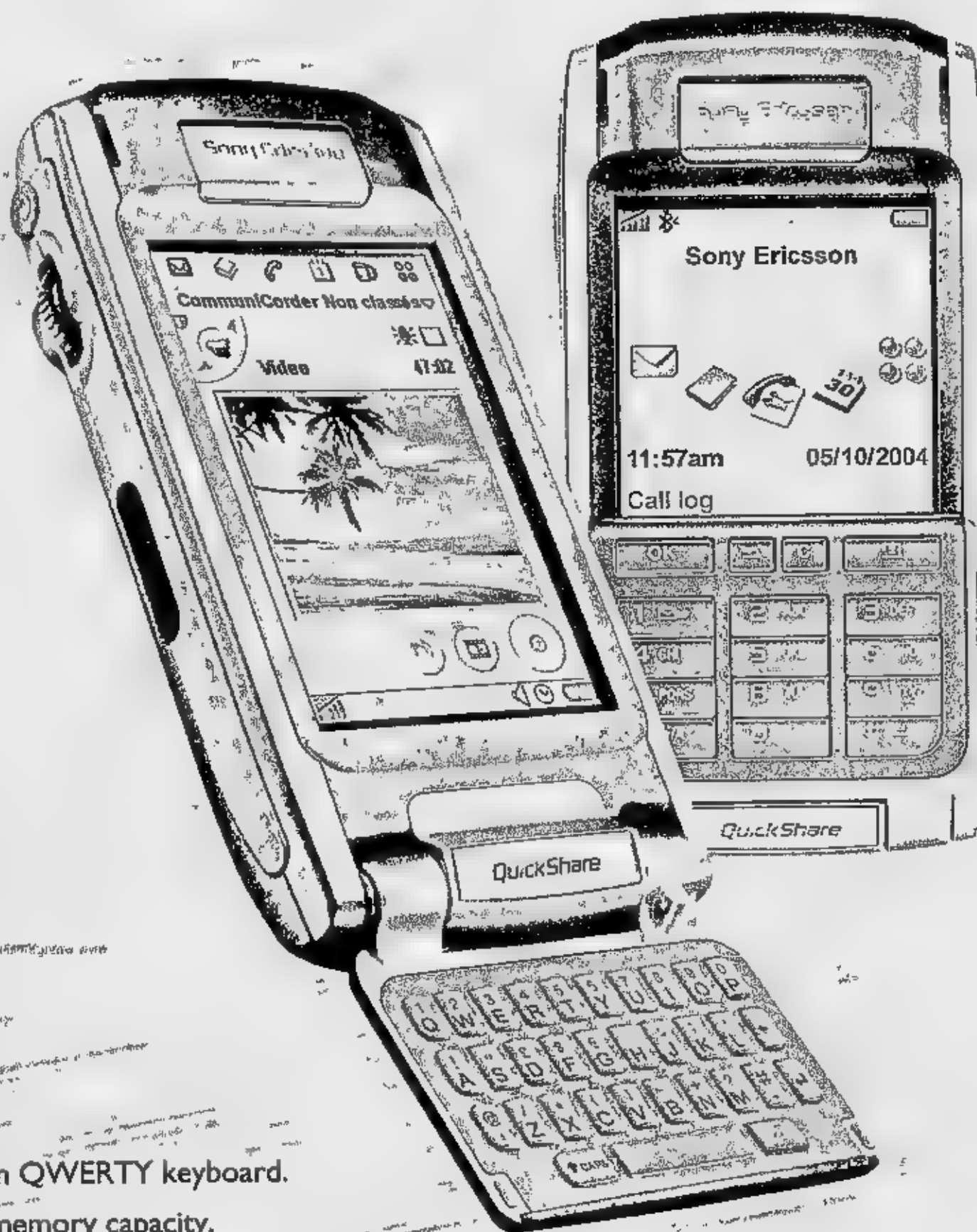
Don't copy, advises Mrs. Mayat-An. "Hahanap-hanapin kayo kapag original and produkto ninyo." Have patience, honesty, and imagination to make your own products, so you don't have to compete against each other. We must not be afraid to start small, she says, because the lack of capital is not a deterrent when you know how to make do with what you have.

Having the Right Attitude

At the audience section, moments later, Anna Lyn attentively listens to Butch Bartolome give tips on How To Start A Business. Thankful that Butch opened her eyes to see business in a more meaningful way, she knows now

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HOT, hot men at the Cosmo Bachelor Bash

From Sodom and Gomorrah to Paradiso

IF THERE is one venue that is the King of all Venues, that would be the NBC Tent at The Fort. In three events this past month, I have seen the site transformed from the steamy Cosmo Bachelor Bash Show with thousands of shrieking, daring city girls, to the first MTV Style Awards with its perfect blend of fashionable crowd and Pinoy music.

On the opposite side of the spectrum, the Tent chameleoned into the paragon of gothic religiosity during the dinner and gala presentation of the most beautiful images and carozas of the Virgin Mary, as presented by the Cofradia de la Inmaculada Concepcion.

Let me tell you about each event. Cosmopolitan magazine is simply the ultimate guide to guys and the whole world of female sexual fantasies that sometimes border on FHM-style reading material. Their readership ranges from the average college girl with secret desires, to the young urbanite juggling work and play in the world of love and men. Get these fun and fearless gals into a hot, hands-on Cosmo Bachelor Bash with barely-covered, 69 sexy and gorgeous men, and you have an explosion.

If the Bench Understatement Show was for the women, men and gays, the Cosmo Show was purely for an all-female crowd. The only older women there were the mothers of the boys on stage. Well, I may have counted as

TESSA!



Tessa
Prieto-Valdes

one of them, too, as the boys' average age was that of my eldest, Bryan.

I was, as usual, juggling three events that evening, having come from the Wella Hair Show where I was one of the judges. My outfit, together with my towering, stunning hairstyle by Victor Ortega of Emphasis, was totally inappropriate for the screaming young things at Cosmopolitan's Tent. But with their bonus issue of the Cosmo Centerfolds, featuring cover stud Jay-R and his strategically positioned apples, the show was a definite must-see, even if it was literally getting hot and humid with all the excitement in the jam-packed Tent.

My travel mate in Athens, Borgy Manotoc, was of course on the Cosmo list at Club 69, but since he was in the US, I just feasted my eyes on Corey Wills and Brent Javier. Pretty

FROM P2



MALU Gamboa and Sea Princess by Meldy Cojuangco's beautiful carrozza

After ogling at Manila's top bachelors and picking up awards for my drag chic, I went to a Marian exhibit where I allowed the icons to upstage me

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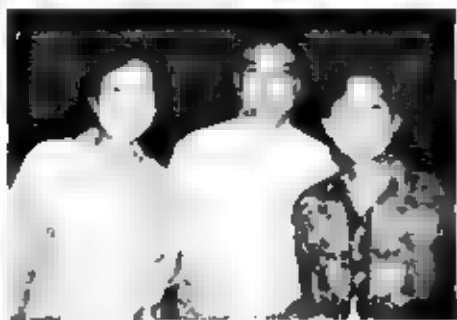
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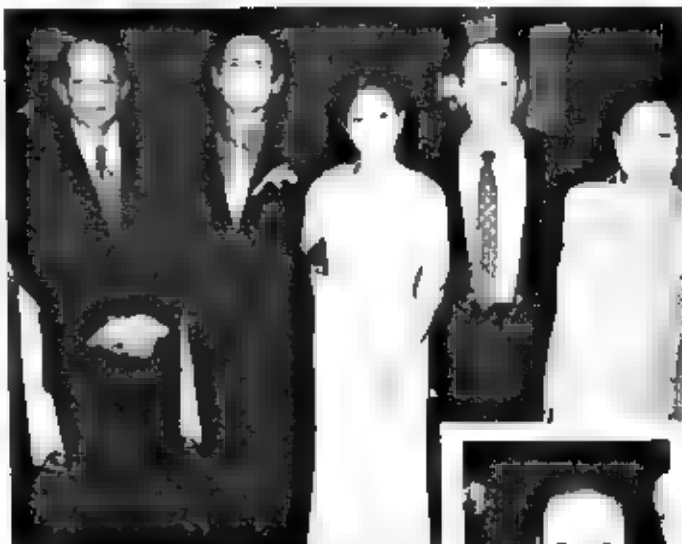
FAMILY affair. Carme Bautista between Mary Lou and Mary Prieto



COOL in Barong. Ricky Toledo, Ricky Punzalan and Chito Vajandre



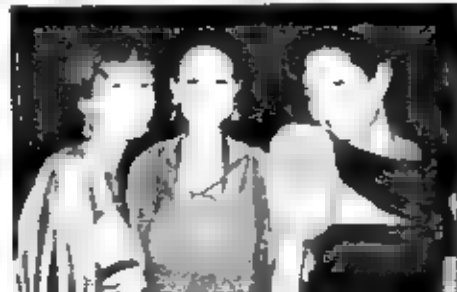
BLESSED company. Fr. Toy Manalang, Fr. Tony Lazaro and Fr. Tony Rosales with the Sea Princess



HAPPY newlyweds Robin and Mona Valdes with their parents, Saleh Bishar and Jesse and Cynthia Valdes



STYLE in the family. Stacy, June and Fe Rodriguez



GORGEOUS girls. Just Shop's Jenne Epperson, Iza Catzado and L'Oreal's Leica Carpo



THE COFRADIA movers. Mrs. Meldy Cojuangco, Danny Dolor, Fe Rodriguez and Evelyn del Rosario

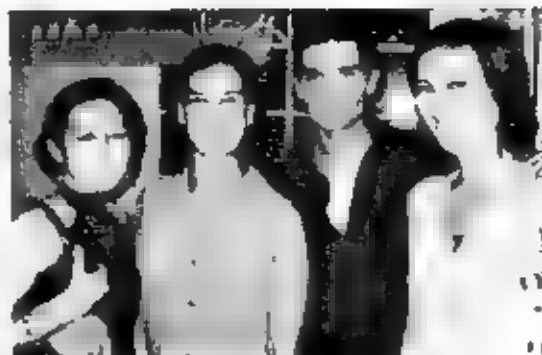
MUSLIM fashion. Sen. Loren Legarda



From Sodom and Gomorrah to Paradiso



NICOLETTE Bell and Lyn Ching-Pascual



ASSUMPTION girls with a hunk. Carmela Puyat, Karina Galang, Mark San Diego and Janine Darin



WELLA Hair Show. Evelyn Cruz, Christopher and Sonia Dove and Victor Ortega

From page F1

boy Luke Jichain looked so deliciously innocent and got a lot of screams. Why are the guys so gorgeous now, compared to those of my generation? Did I miss the boat or perhaps row in the wrong direction? The girls are luckier now, although they also have more competition.

Style awards

The next event I attended at the NBC Tent was for the MTV Style Awards. A few weeks ago, Bryan told me that he was shocked to find out that I was not even a nominee for any of the categories in the Style Awards. Funny that my son now roots for me, when he used to be so embarrassed when I would dress so strangely whenever I went to his ultra-conservative high school, the Opus Dei bastion, Southridge.

To my surprise, I was given two special awards by MTV. One was Best in Bling, which is a nice surprise considering my favorite jewelry is faux. The other award, Viewer's Choice Style Icon, I shared with my alter ego, Inquirer Super's Tim Yap. I was honored to receive those awards as accomplishments for my many hours in Emphasis Salon and tons of costume changes from my style editor, Rajo Laurel. I was so flattered to know that I received 55,000 text votes! My son will be proud. He probably sent 50,000 of those texts himself!

In between awards, I had a nice chat with radiant Zsa Zsa Padilla, who looks just like her billboards—gorgeous at 40. We exchanged tips on fitness, beauty and the benefits of swimming. I was pleasantly shocked when she told me that breaststroke actually tightens the vagina muscles. I quickly shared that info with stylish Ilocos Rep. Imee Marcos, who was presenting an award and also received two awards on behalf of her hot hunk-son, Borge. Only Borge and I received two awards, which we attribute to our constant presence in the hilarious last page spoof of the Philippine Tatler.

Cofradia chic

If Cosmo and MTV were Sodom and Gomorrah, then the Cofradia was heaven. Initially, I was not even headed there because I didn't expect to see anyone I knew (hey, I don't even know what Cofradia means!). I figured, with all those Spanish words, that this was really an event for my *patangga*, Maurice Arcache to cover.

Then I found out that my non-social husband Dennis was attending the Cofradia dinner. This is usually a clear sign that this is not my kind of affair. He was there with the rest of the Bantay Bata 163 gang, of which he is a director. After all, who can say "no" to super charitable Gina Lopez?

But when I casually mentioned the Cofradia dinner to my fave restaurateur Malu Gamboa, she was all out to convince me to go and join the merriment. So I decided to go. Besides, I just couldn't stop saying the word Cofradia. It's like a tune that just stays in your head.

So after the Johnson & Johnson launch of its new baby powder with milk (it does feel so silky!), I rushed to join Dennis, Malu and a large crowd of Marian devotees. Founding chair Imelda Ongsiako-Cojuangco greeted me at the entrance and briefly explained to me the different images and *carrozas* beautifully displayed with breathtaking floral arrangements. If I knew how elaborate the presentations were, I would have come dressed as a Flores de Mayo princess.

Ms Cojuangco and the Cofradia had arranged for First Communion to be administered to hundreds of less fortunate boys and girls, and reinforced spiritual development among our countrymen. I have heard myself called the Meldy Cojuangco of my generation because of my dressing. Now, I also want to be compared to her because of the wonderful efforts she has propagated in the strengthening of our Marian devotion.

With events ranging from the wild and woolly to the heavenly, it's been a great month, and all the more so because my brother-in-law, Robin, got married to his wonderful and beautiful Indonesian partner, Mona. The court date had to be snuck into a busy judge's schedule, probably between sentencing some criminals! Well, Robin and Mona are now set for life! Love does conquer all!

E-mail me at scaprincess@inquirer.com.ph.



STYLE overload. Maverick, Inquirer's Tim Yap and me with Arrel



COSMO host Angel Jacob with fab designer Dennis Lustica



MODEL couple Raya Mananquil and Corey Wills



ARTIST friends Tina Bonzon and Rico Sison



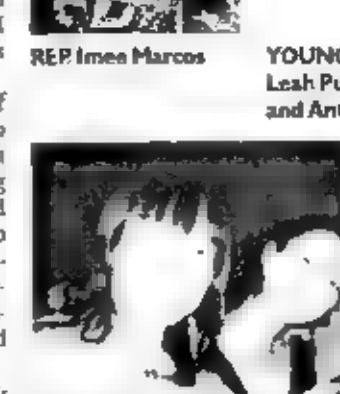
ELEGANT guests Nini Lcaros and Dr. Elenita Binay



REP Imee Marcos



YOUNG and energetic set: Junie Rodriguez, Leah Puyat, Anton Barreto, Malu Gamboa and Anton Naguiat



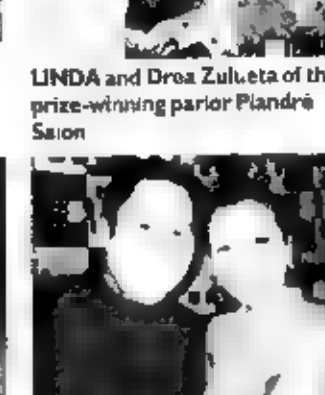
EDITOR friends Cosmo's Myrza Sison and Preview's Pauline Suaco-Juan



LINDA and Dora Zulueta of the prize-winning parlor Plandre Saion



URBAN Spa regulars Anne Sytin and Irene Ibarra



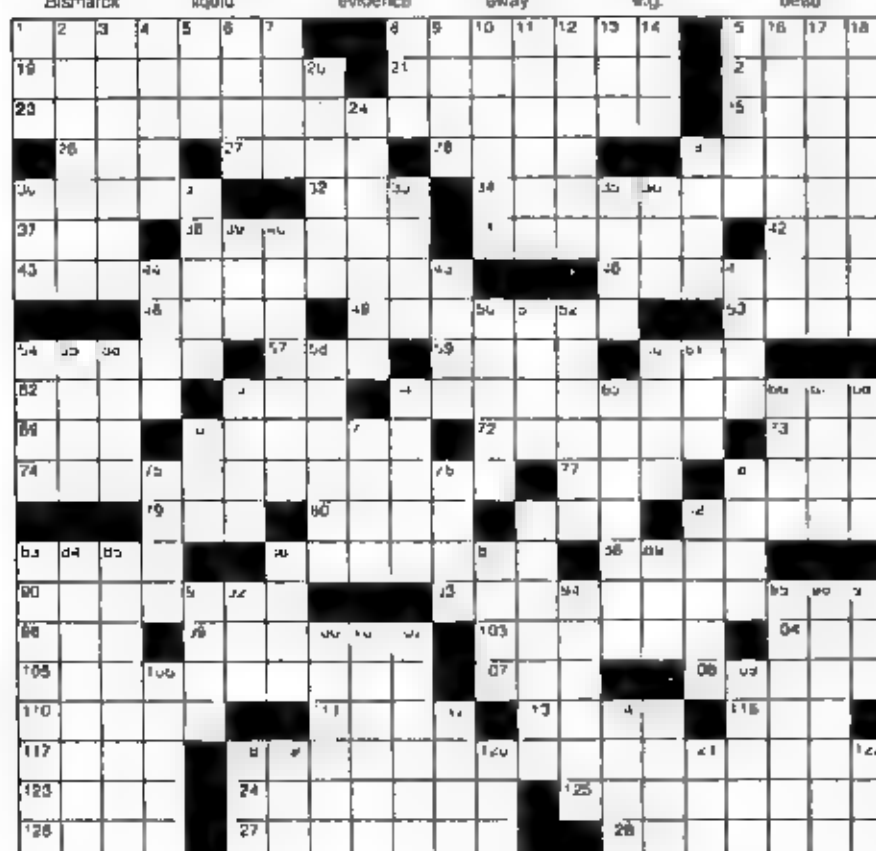
DESIGNER and muse Rajo Laurel and Zsa Zsa Padilla

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

SELECTIONS

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ACROSS | 49 Olympic symbols | 89 It may indicate sarcasm | 3 Outback outings | 50 "— de Luna" (oil giant) | 85 Chalupa—offering chair |
| 1 Light planes | 53 Koala's hangout | 88 — Park (Pittsburgh Pirates stadium) | 4 Sions monument | 52 Main dish | 86 Archibald Stannen |
| 8 Act drink | 54 Laaps (Pittsburgh Pirates stadium) | 89 Actress Mason | 5 Eggy drink | 54 Tazis City site | 87 Sad |
| 15 Intermittent | 57 VCR format | 103 Mine's Pool | 6 Calla lily | 56 Prefix with 121 Down | 88 "Soo — care" |
| 19 Handel's "Messiah," e.g. | 59 Valley | 104 Neither here there | 7 Old Thaddeus | 58 — corpus | 89 "Soo — care" |
| 21 Wallops | 60 — carest | 105 Escapist's place | 8 Health club | 60 Half a fortnight | 91 Vandebilt and Tan |
| 22 Aware of | 62 Redding of R&B | 107 Tampa-to-Atlanta dir. | 9 Roman cover-up | 61 "Good" cholesterol | 92 Revolver, slangy |
| 23 Serve as a protection from | 64 Very tall | 108 Street speech | 10 Actress Blake | 62 Pul on board | 94 Coll about |
| 25 Chowder choice | 66 California conifer | 110 Judicial garb | 11 Musical boy with two flats | 64 Sympathetic: sort | 95 Lack of sense |
| 26 Baseballer Bando | 69 Outlaw Singer | 111 Grub | 12 Swiss city | 65 Purnia's partner | 96 TV cabinet |
| 27 Caesar's 2,501 | 70 Singers Sirensand | 112 Stratum | 13 Raised rail-vays | 66 Shortstop Vizquel | 97 Unit of work |
| 28 Actress Bancroft | 72 Nazareth locale | 113 Grub | 14 O-u. Rolap | 67 Seep | 100 Curses |
| 29 Windy City airport | 73 "The Simpsons" bartender | 114 Addi — (extras) | 15 Starbuck selection | 68 Legal title | 101 Close, as a wound |
| 30 Less suited | 74 Attendant carrying a warrior's arms | 117 Golf coups | 16 One expanding | 69 Mucralar Nolo | 102 Conductor Toscanini |
| 32 Rod Stewart's label | 77 Andersed animal | 118 What a modern provides | 17 Captain Kirk's log entry | 70 Engrasatad | 106 View anew |
| 34 Annual gospel music prizes | 78 Fog | 123 Narrative | 18 Plot for a residence | 71 With 86 | 109 Jackpot game |
| 37 "Exodus" hero | 79 Doll bread | 124 Tuscany: In ancient times | 20 Trial | 72 Across, "CHIPS" co-star | 112 Twirl |
| 38 Being hooked | 80 Copycat | 125 Fight | 24 Narmakulla | 73 Part of Q.E.D. | 114 Can's nephew |
| 41 Fil to be fanned | 81 Hi | 126 Fashion magazine | 29 is in debt | 74 Ring of sanctity | 116 Musical McEnire |
| 42 Moo goo par | 82 Dog — (snappy) | 127 Answer | 30 La — Bolivia | 75 Ring of sanctity | 118 Arida of Cologne |
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| 45 Actress Angela | 86 See 75 | DOWN | 32 Inside dope | 77 Santa crew? | 120 Boulder |
| 48 — van Blismark | 88 Work like | 1 Bus limits | 33 Yano | 78 Suction oil | 121 Filming equipment |
| | 90 Sopped-up liquid | 2 Error evidence | 34 — As if | 79 Using sign language, e.g. | 122 Nancy Drew's beau |



answer on page C3

Seminars on modern Christian living

A LECTURE series on "St. Therese: A Model for Contemporary Christian Living" will be held on Nov. 14, 21, 28 and Dec. 5 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Shrine on Doña J. Rodriguez Avenue (formerly Broadway), New Manila, Q.C.

The lecture series is the fourth collaborative project of the Friars of St. John of the Cross Monastery and the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites, St. Teresa of Jesus Community. It is open to all interested parties for free.

To lecture on "Holiness: Realization in Little Things" on Nov. 14 is Fr. Bobby Buenconsejo, SJ, professor of Theology at Ateneo de Manila. Prof. Victoria Parco, professor at the Theology Department, Ateneo de Manila University, will speak on "Therese and Commitment" on Nov. 21, while Mr. Froilan Torres, OCDS, of the St. Teresa of Jesus Community, will discuss "Therese and Scripture-Based Little Way" on Nov. 28. Fr. Mariano "Junjun"

Agruda III, OCD, parish priest of the Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Shrine, will talk on "Spirituality of Imperfection: The Way of Therese of Lisieux" on Dec. 5.

All the lectures will be held from 2-4 p.m. Declared Doctor of the Church, St. Therese's doctrine of the 'Way of Spiritual Childhood' provides a very effective means of dealing with very contemporary problems and circumstances.

Call 7222424 or 4138780, or inquire at the St. John of the Cross Monastery or at the OCDS House of Prayer at 4 Fifth St., New Manila, Quezon City.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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GRATOR	POMMEL	INFO
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SALVAGE	ANNE	SHARE
PURPLE	EM	OVERNARDS
AR	APAWN	GOBLE
REST	FORLIFE	BACK
OTTO	YOGA	ER
JUMPS	VHS	OVER
OT	S	EA
BAN	BARBRA	SPACE
SI	LDREAPER	ER
RYE	APER	HES
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SOAKAGE	IONED	YO
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VORYTOWER	ANN	CLANG
ROBES	EA	S
ACES	ALUP	CONNECTION
TALL	FTLR	A
ELLE	HES	RESPONE
		SANDWICH

Tea party for dogs

TODAY, Oct. 10, 4 p.m., Komiks Café opens its doors to dog lovers

and their canine friends for an afternoon tea party. The lifestyle café is at Orosa corner Nakpil Sts., Malate, Manila.

There will be a dog blessing and games for all. All breeds are welcome, including askals. Call Komiks Café at 5262547.

UBO AT TUNGKASO... ISANG CAPSULE KALANG!

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Nickelodeon's
Let's Just Play
the SMART Kid way

Nickelodeon's
Let's Just Play
the SMART Kid way

SMART kid. The Cellphone for Kids, helped whip up an amazing good time for kids and kids at heart recently at Nickelodeon's "Let's Just Play" Worldwide Day of Play. Last October 2, kids from around the world, at home, at school, at clubs and at playgrounds got their game faces on for the ultimate playtime event held at the Adidas Sports Kamp in Bonifacio Global City, Taguig.

The event kicked off at 1pm and from then on, it was a thrilling overload of fun, games, food and sports! For starters, kids were asked to bounce their way to The Rocket Power Park where giant slime-filled inflatables awaited them. Once there, the activities were limitless—bungee, velcro, trampoline and wall climbing. Other activities included The Slime Dunk, BMX Bike and Skateboard exhibitions. Needless to say, it was all happening at The Rocket Park.

But kids need to eat too, which is why the play didn't have to be put on hold for long. The nearby Grub Hub offered all kinds of yummy food while encouraging the youngsters to eat right. For the health-conscious kid, there was the aptly named Nick's Fitness for Missits where they could find out their weight, height or if their weight was right for their height. Nick's Kicks got the kids busy with Stratus Volleyball, Dino Soccer and Ultimate Frisbee. It was a kid's dream—non-stop games, storytelling, quizzes, puppetry, magic tricks, races and loads more.

SMART Kid boasts two unique concepts that both parents and kids will appreciate. "Family Finder" allows your child to get in touch with selected members of his family by simply dialing "11" on his SMART Kid cellphone. If none of the family members can be reached, a text message is sent to you that your kid is attempting to contact you. And with the "Kid Locator" feature, you can always know where exactly your kid is. By simply registering your kid's cellphone number via access code 386, you can have peace of mind knowing your kid's whereabouts anytime you choose, just by texting WISspacekid's cellphone number to access code 386. You can now know your kid's exact location without even having to phone him.

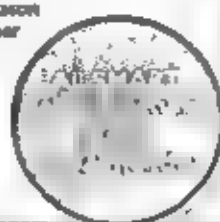
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ARTIST	TITLE	RING ID	ARTIST	TITLE	RING ID	ARTIST	TITLE	RING ID
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Anastacia	One Day In Your Life	101460	Cyndi Lauper	I Drove All Night	101482	Jessica Simpson	Sweetest Sin	101496
Babyface	When Can I See You Again	101465	Cyndi Lauper	Time After Time	101483	Jessica Simpson	Take My Breath Away	101497
Celine Dion	Beauty And The Beast	101471	Cyndi Lauper	True Colors	101484	Kelly Rowland	Stole	101505
Celine Dion	My Heart Will Go On	101476	Darren Hayes	Insatiable	101485	Savage Garden	The Animal Song	101517
Celine Dion	The Power Of Love	101479	Darren Hayes	Strange Relationship	101486	Savage Garden	Truly Madly Deeply	101518
			Good Charlotte	Girls & Boys	101492	Simon & Garfunkel	Bridge Over Troubled Water	101519
			Good Charlotte	Lifestyles Of The Rich And The Famous	101493	Simon & Garfunkel	Mrs. Robinson	101521
						Simon & Garfunkel	Sound Of Silence	101522

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FORMER Tourism Secretary Roberto Pagdanganan (left) and Boracay Mayor Ciceron Cawaling listen as presidential daughter Luli Arroyo talks about waste management.

Trouble in a tropical paradise

By Edd Fuentes
Contributor

THINK of Boracay and, instantly you'll visualize pristine white sand, crystal-clear blue waters and brilliantly colored marine life

It is hard to imagine this tropical paradise filled with trash, debris and urban rubbish. But this is the harsh reality that confronted hundreds of volunteers during a recent massive cleanup in support of the local govern-

TROUBLE/G5

The recent International Coastal Cleanup made Boracay residents confront threats to their Eden

TIFFANY & CO.

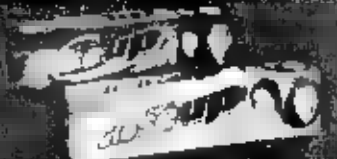
Tiffany Hearts™ pendant of diamonds set in platinum.

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close-up

New Close-Up's Complete Mouth Fitness™ will blow you away. Now with Vitamin Fluoride System that gives you white teeth, fresh breath, strong teeth and gums. With everything in there, there's no way to go but up.

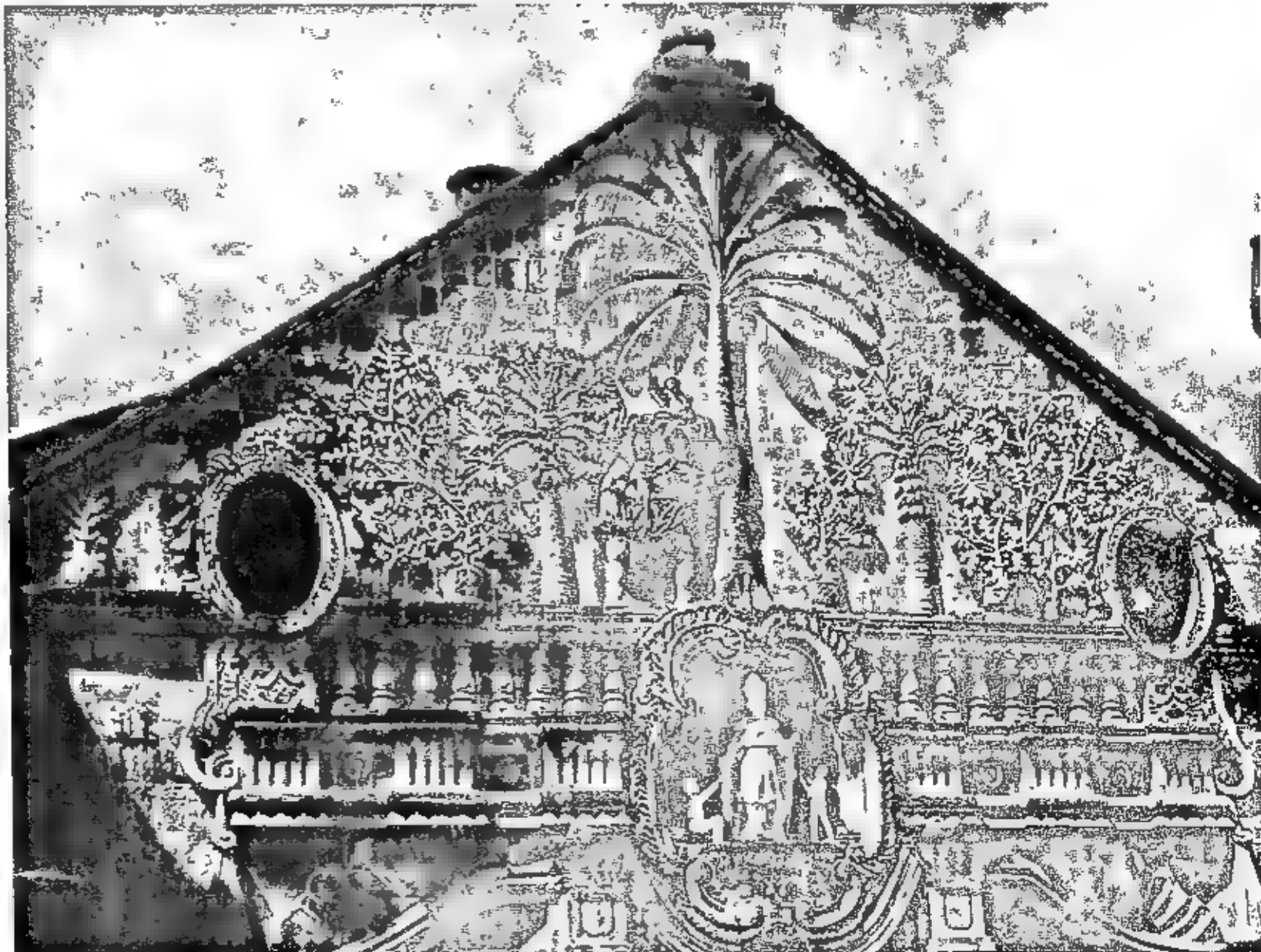




A LIFE-SIZE replica of the Virgen de Candelaria, patroness of Iloilo City, greets visitors at the landing of the Jalandoni house built in the 1930s.



BOY Yang, who developed an interest in antiques some 20 years ago, probably has one of the most extensive collections of religious images in the country.



ONE of the Philippines' four baroque churches, the Miag-ao Church dedicated to St. Thomas of Villanueva has been destroyed and restored several times.

Iloilo celebrates new dining, entertainment strip



ANTIQUe collector-trader Lourdes Delota shows buyers her latest creations.



DELOTA uses antique beads to fashion bangles and necklaces.

provides an opportunity to explore cuisines beyond their shores and to sample new and interesting fun ideas, if they want something other than old favorites. Paseo, the area between the mall and the multi-level parking structure, has fast food joints and restaurants, cafes and bars.

Halfway place

It is just the right place for catching one's breath after an exhausting shopping expedition, to have an early dinner before taking in a movie or a late supper afterward, indulge someone's passion for music for few hours in a karaoke joint, and treat the kids to pizza or hotdog. The visitor can also get all those baked goodies and confections the province is famous for to bring as *pasalubong* for friends and family. And all the food, fun and enter-

ILOILO/G3

Text and photos by Linda B. Bolido

ILOILO does not really need another attraction. Very few places can match its beautiful old churches and equally lovely old houses, delicious and unique delicacies, fresh seafood, people with extensive and impressive antique collections, lovely gardens and the local weaving industry that makes the shimmering *hablon* fabrics, the colorful *patadyong*, *piña* and *just*.

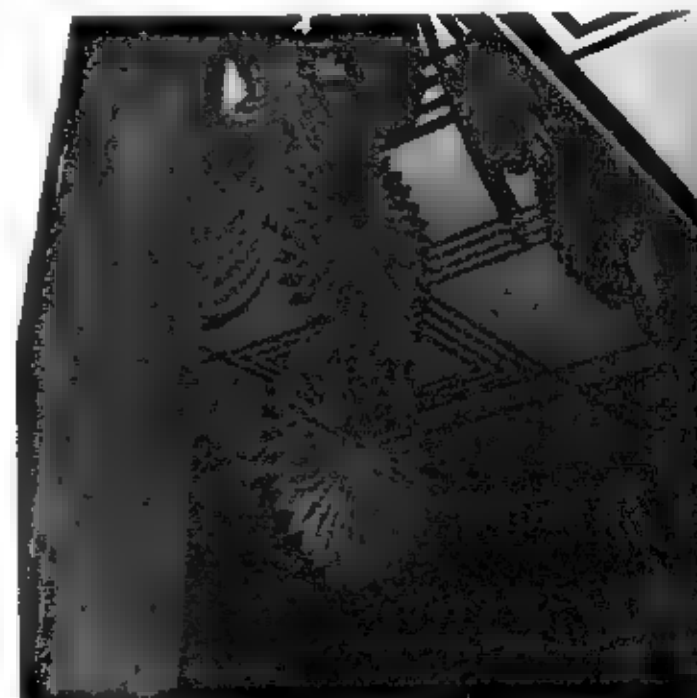
Both locals and visitors are still awed and charmed by the baroque Miag-ao Church no matter how often they see it. The century-old Locsin ancestral house and the 1930s Jalandoni residence speak of a past of gentility and subtle luxury.

And though the antique stores may not look like your usual commercial establishments, the treasures in relics from a storied and colorful past that they hold are more than a match to the best places in Metro Manila.

New attraction

Still, Robinsons Place Iloilo felt the city and province could use yet another crowd-drawer. The mall chain opened recently Paseo Iloilo, a dining/entertainment strip that brings together a merry mix of eating and fun places that try to meet every conceivable taste and preference.

For visitors, Paseo Iloilo is a convenient one-stop place for local dishes and delicacies, with establishments offering the best the province has to offer located just a few steps away from each other. For the locals, the strip



CARVED wooden palm leaves adorn the ceiling over the main stairs of the century-old Locsin ancestral home.

REWARDS

The wild chase is on for Inquirer's Guyito!

Look for the specially-marked Guyito coupon in the pages of Inquirer. Cut out, put your name, address and signature. Drop at designated drop boxes for a shot at your most wanted rewards!

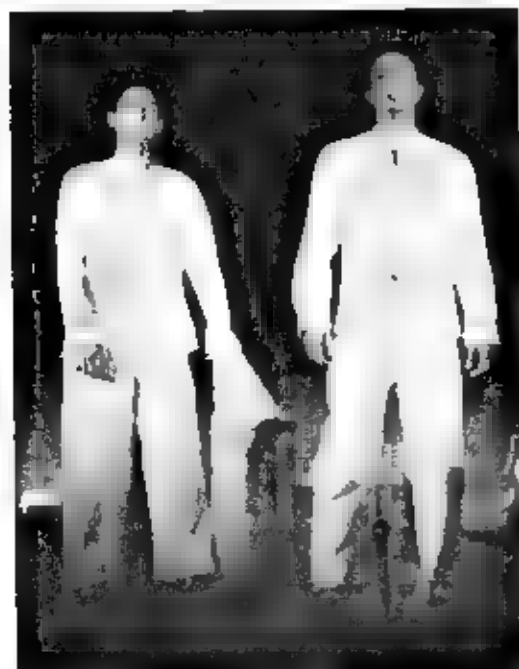
Join the fun as Inquirer celebrates 10 exciting years of giving Filipinos no less than balanced news and fearless views.

Hunt from September 27 to December 14, 2004!

See posters and print ads for more details.

All products are available at Digital Exchange Glorietta 3

Iloilo celebrates new dining, entertainment strip



MODELS wear Iloilo designer Bo Parcon's white hablon ensemble embroidered with butterflies.

From page G2

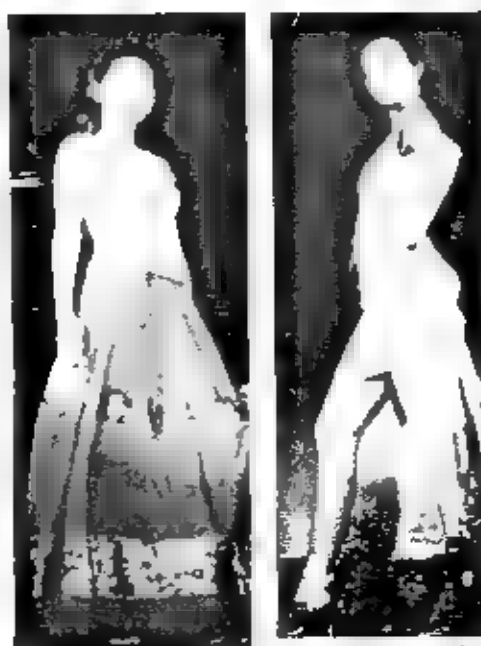
tainment are reasonably priced.

Appropriately, the opening was fun, entertaining and distinctively Ilonggo. After Iloilo City Mayor Jerry P. Trenas, assisted by Robinsons Mall's general manager Nilo S. Mapa and Ms Robinson 2004 Diana Clyde Clavero, lit the ceremonial torch and switched on the lights along the Paseo, a fashion show was staged by members of the Designers' Guild of Iloilo that highlighted the beauty and versatility of local fabrics. Participating designers were Jaki Peñalosa, Bituin ng Kasuotang Filipino Grand Slam winner; Bo Parcon, finalist in the Metropolitan Museum's Terno for the 21st Century competition; Sol Fernandez, and Angelette Borja-Ragus.

Singer Rachel Alejandro gave a spirited performance to the delight of the Ilonggo audience. Recording artist Aliyah Parcs hosted the event, which was directed by Don Protasio and Sol Fernandez.

The new Paseo Iloilo consists of the Biscocho Haus, Kim's Bob Korean Restaurant, a.s. Mixx Restobar, Rooks Sports Bar, Go Fish, Reasons Bar & Restaurant, Busay Seafood Restaurant, Netopia Internet Café, Ultra Pi, Mang Inasal, Planetarium Café, Ha! Ha! Ha! Comedy Bar, Papa Heinz Pizza, and Ted's Lapaz Backery.

Events partners for the Paseo Iloilo opening were Holiday Inn Galleria Manila, Cebu Pacific Air, Robinsons Movieworld, Picture City, Four Season Hotel, Panorama Printing Inc and Connie's Handwoven.



SOL Fernandez uses plain hablon in different shades of blue for the blouse and skirt ensemble on the left and checked hablon and crushed silk for the ensemble on the right.



THE RECENT opening of Robinsons Place Iloilo's Paseo Iloilo was an occasion to showcase local fabrics as in Angelette Borja-Ragus' modern bar't said.



THE SHIMMERING colors of hablon make handkerchiefs and scarves special.



Iloilo City Mayor Jerry Trenas

A FIT MOUTH CAN DO INCREDIBLE THINGS

closeup

That's the strength of Complete Mouth Fitness® from the new Close-Up. Now with Vitamin Fluoride System that gives you white teeth, fresh breath, strong teeth and gums. Sink your teeth into that!

closeup

Sunday LIFESTYLE

France honors Ingrid Santamaria



CONFERMENT of the rank of Chevalier Dans l'Ordre National Du Merite upon Ingrid Sala Santamaria by French Ambassador Renee Veyret

CHIEF Justice Hilario Davide Jr. paid Ingrid Sala Santamaria a lovely compliment when she was conferred by French Ambassador Renee Veyret the rank of Chevalier Dans

l'Ordre National Du Merite signed by no less than French President Jacques Chirac. In his short but sweet speech, the chief justice said the "In" in Ingrid stood for integrity. (I think he was trying to make a point, don't you?) Now, doesn't it make you wonder about prophets in their own country, etc.? How long do you think it will take for the Cultural Center of the Philippines and President Macapagal-Arroyo to recognize Ingrid's contributions to the cultural life of the country through her back-breaking tours of schools and provinces with her piano in tow?

Asia's cultural hub?

Although Shanghai is making a bid as a cultural haven with the celebration of a Biennale

DIPLOMATIC SWIRL

By Amiga

and its gorgeous Shanghai Museum, Singapore had a headstart, the resolve and the money to be the hub of Asia's cultural life. (We may have the talent but not the vision, the resolve or the money)

Singapore Ambassador

Lim Kheng Hua hosted recently a lunch for some editors and writers with Filipino artist Pacita Abad, who makes her home in Singapore now, as guest of honor, to announce the launch of her newest exhibit, "Circles in My Mind," at the CCP (that needs more than a hundred million pesos for repair and renovation, which obviously would not be easy to raise). Arts Asia Magazine describes the Filipino artist's works as "poetry of the spirit."

Present at the lunch were Pacita's husband, Jack Garrity, as well as Martin Tran, Richard Hungerford of the Singapore Tyler Print Institute, and media bigwigs Ethel Soliven of the Manila Bulletin, Millet Mananquil and Joanne Ramirez of the Philippine Star, Ces Drilon of ABS-CBN and Chit Liguano of Mani-



EUGENE Chua, Tina Calayno, Martin Tran, Singaporean Ambassador Lim Kheng Hua, Pacita Abad, Jack Garrity and Richard Hungerford

PHOTOS BY OTTO JOHNSON

In Times

The next day saw a large crowd of people at the CCP gallery. You couldn't see squat because of the density of the crowd, which shows there's a lot of interest in the arts among the general public despite government officials' claim that they only draw the elite. Good luck and way to go, Singapore!

Anniversary celebration

The Bengzon Law Firm hosted a cocktail reception for its clients and friends at the Turf Room of the Polo Club to celebrate their anniversary. Romela Bengzon, managing partner, together with partners Agencio M. Ungson and Manolito S. Soler, reintroduced the firm's lineup of corporate and litigation associate lawyers.

Among those present were Argentine Ambassador Mario Schuff, Belgian Ambassador Chris Tanghe, French Ambassador Renee Veyret, Indian Ambassador Navtecha Sharma, Saudi Ambassador Ameen Wali, Canadian Ambassador Peter Sutherland and officials of government.

Birthday party

Celebrating her birthday at the Wack-Wack Golf and Country Club was Babbet Goudamit with personal friends, members of the Catholic Women's Club, Friends of Cultura. Concerns of the Philippines and others in the diplomatic community attending.

Aside from a lovely ca.oric lunch prepared by Millie Reyes, Babbet "exchanged" gifts with her guests. This seems to be a new custom—the celebrator gives presents to the guests.

Trade magazine launched

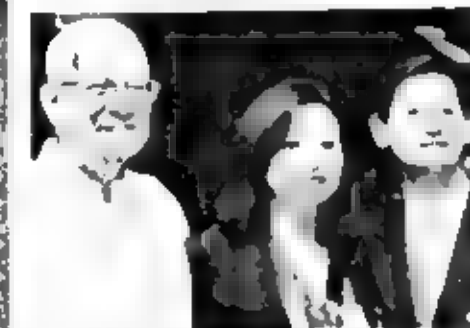
With President Macapagal-Arroyo as guest of honor, editor in chief Chit Pedrosa launched a new trade and advocacy magazine, Quality Britain, at the Hotel InterContinental.

Guests included members of the British community led by Ambassador Paul Dimond, government officials, House Speaker Jose de Venecia, Sen. Ed Angara and Gill Westaway of the British Council. Tessa Prieto-Valdes emceed the event.

The quarterly, published by Ma'an Gabriel, will be available in newstands. Call 8125654



BRITISH Ambassador Paul Dimond and President Macapagal-Arroyo



DR. Quinlan Doromal, Melo Bengzon and Pepito Bengzon



BABBET Goudamit, Maria Villacorta and Muzbet Kazim

your time can heal his painful past.

Hands on Manila is a non-profit organization that recruits, educates and coordinates a network of volunteers for community projects. We have over 30 service programs to choose from ranging from literacy, arts, sports, housing and counseling among others. If you feel you are called to serve, here's our number: 843-7044 or e-mail us at honm@info.com.ph. A little of your time heals all wounds.

HANDS ON
MANILA
FOUNDATION, INC.



THE BORACAY Foundation, led by Lara Salaver (left), organized the Boracay cleanup.



VOLUNTEERS sift through the white sand to gather garbage.

Trouble in a tropical paradise

From page G1

ment's efforts to maintain the beauty of Boracay's water and beaches.

From flotsam that included leaves and driftwood, to non-biodegradable trash like soda cans, plastic bags, PVC pipes, broken bottles and even infant diapers—the haul was undeniably large and totally unacceptable. Not exactly the kind of stuff you want to find on one of the world's most beautiful beaches.

Joint effort

The grim reality served to strengthen the resolve of Boracay residents and establishment owners to preserve the island as a tropical paradise. With the lure of the island as strong as ever, Boracay's stakeholders banded together to help ensure that its beauty is preserved—especially now that the new travel season is just round the corner.

Led by Boracay Foundation president Lara Salaver and chair Henry Chusuey, the massive Boracay beach cleanup was part of the annual International Coastal Cleanup spearheaded by the Ocean Conservancy. Every year, thousands of volunteers descend on various coastal and

underwater areas all over the world to collect garbage that cause flooding and threaten the health and survival of humans and marine life.

The activity fostered a spirit of camaraderie among various non-government organizations, like the Kiwanis Club of Boracay, the Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the Boracay Association of Scuba Diving Schools that tirelessly worked together during the cleanup. Divers from the Aquarius Diving Group spent hours underwater collecting big and small pieces of trash undoubtedly left by irresponsible tourists.

Special thanks should also go to Korean dive instructor Mi-Young Park and dive-mates Kyung-Jong Lee, Galileo Solano Jr., David Baglow, Tom Cocker and Alan McCosh.

Continuing struggle

Obviously, keeping Boracay waters unpolluted will be a continuing struggle, what with thousands of tourists from all over the world flying in almost every day.

But the turnout during the recent cleanup showed that people would continue to fight to keep Boracay's environment, especially its

marine ecosystem, healthy.

For resort owners like myself, vigilance and a strong commitment to the cause is imperative. We must constantly remind everyone, especially our guests, of the importance of keeping Boracay's beaches and its waters clean. We must also strengthen our resolve to implement proper waste management, even if sometimes it means sacrificing profits for the love of the place we now call home.

We have to keep the awareness level high by attending and organizing forums like the one organized recently by Boracay Mayor Ciceron Cawaling, with former Tourism Secretary Roberto Pagdanganan and officials of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, that discussed various waste management issues.

The work may be difficult and time-consuming, but the benefits will be long-term, especially for people like myself who have come to regard Boracay as home.

Boracay's natural beauty has to be protected and its waters kept unpolluted so future generations will continue to enjoy its azure marine waters and powdery white beach.



DIVERS Tom Cocker, Mi-Young Park and David Baglow haul bags of trash collected from the waters of Boracay.

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WATER WORLD. An indoor marine aquarium at Sentosa Park pacifies the crowd.



FINE CITY. And we mean that in a positive way, as Singapore loosens up to attract more tourists.

By Alex Y. Vergara

THE COUNTRY'S tourism officials have a lot to learn from their Singaporean counterparts. While the number of visitors to the Philippines barely reached two million last year, Singapore attracted close to seven million dollar-spending (and euro-, too) tourists last year.

And that figure excludes thousands of tourists from neighboring Malaysia who go on weekend trips there.

"Tourism contributed close to \$56 billion to the economy," says See Kay Leong, acting assistant director for the Singapore Tourism Board's (STB) brand management division. "That translates to 4 percent of our GDP."

Despite Singapore tourism's banner year, there's definitely room for improvement, as STB aims to breach the 10-million mark in tourist arrivals this year. Not a far-fetched goal, really. As of July this year, Singapore said to have already drawn close to eight million tourists, many of whom came from its top three markets: Indonesia, India and China. Again, the tally doesn't include Malaysians.

"The Japanese and Australian markets are also very strong," says Leong. "During the last few months, we've also seen a steady increase in the number of tourists coming from the Philippines."

STB officials attribute the increase to its new marketing thrust launched early this year. Billed "Uniquely Singapore," the new campaign continues and improves its previous "New Asia" line, which ran for almost eight years.

"I think every country has a unique offering," says Leong. "Because of Singapore's tradition of adhering to high standards, it's in a good position to offer high-end

products and services."

And what does the jaded Pinoy expect to see and experience in Singapore? A lot, says Leong, as both private and public sectors endeavor to jack up the excitement quotient by continuously coming up with new attractions.

Indulgence

The campaign is further divided into several categories, one of which is "Uniquely Indulgent."

Over the last five years, Singapore has added several malls catering to various market segments along its famed shopping row a.k.a. Orchard Road.

Apart from housing independent shops and boutiques, Ngee Ann City, for instance, is home to Takashimaya, one of Singapore's biggest and most famous department stores. For those hard-to-find books, there's the Kinokuniya bookstore within the complex.

If you're into street fashion, stumble into one-of-a-kind finds at Heeren and Far East Plaza (off Orchard Road). Metrosexuals and ladies with loads of attitude won't come home empty-handed.

For the brand-conscious, however, the place to check out is the Paragon. Its new wing is a haven for signature brands that are guaranteed to quicken your pulse before you start feeling sorry for yourself for not having the means to afford any of them.

The nifty address includes the likes of Gucci, Prada, Louis Vuitton, Christian Dior, Bulgari, Hermes and Ralph Lauren. Even relatively unknown but hip stores such as G-Star (a Dutch brand) and Project Shop/Blood Brothers carry to-die-for items such as jeans, shirts and bags that may max out even a fully loaded credit card. Sigh.

There's a flip side, however, to Singapore's image as a clean, safe and efficient city that people as STB want to debunk. Not a few bargain-hunting tourists consider it an expensive shopping destination stocked with items mostly from China.

Nothing could be farther from the truth, says Leong.

"Not all stuff comes from Hong Kong," she says. "We also have stuff designed by local designers. We have the clothes manufactured abroad since manufacturing isn't one of our strengths due to limited space and manpower."



EAT ALL YOU CAN! Singapore's culinary scene is as diverse as ever. "Must-eat" restaurants include Lee Annis and The Ritz-Carlton's Summer Pavilion.

Indeed, most of the signature items sold in Singapore are expensive, says Isaac Poh, one of STB's managers for its brand management division, but their prices are at par with prices everywhere else.

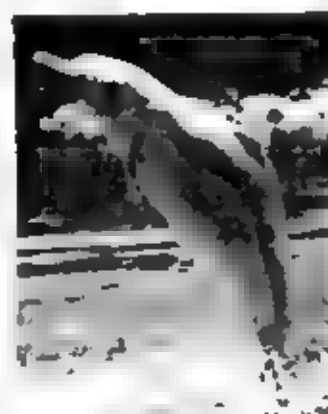
Unlike most places, though, Singapore offers a full range of the latest coveted goods for those willing and able to pay for them.

Extreme fun

If you find shopping too laid-back, then it's probably time to go for some extreme fun via G-Max. The swing-like contraption from New Zealand is designed to simulate the sensation of bungee jumping and more.

But instead of plunging from a cliff with a rope around your waist, groups of three are seated securely on an improvised carriage held together by two giant rubber bands, which are stretched almost to a breaking point before they're released into the air like a sling shot. The carriage is akin to a giant yoyo as it bounces up and down for what seemed like three long minutes.

While the guys in our group refused to try the ride, it was the girls who dared to, well, take it to the max. Did they enjoy it? Well, they lived to hear and see their screams, giggles and contorted faces captured on VCD.



ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY. Daily dolphin show at Sentosa Park.

Fampering the senses through luxurious spas and world class performances are also two ways to "indulge" in the Lion City. The Australian production of "Mamma Mia" now on its third week, has been packing in crowds at the newly built Esplanade. If you can't produce homegrown art, then the next best thing to do is to buy it.

The award-winning team of Spabotanica (www.spabotanica.com) at Sentosa has the facilities and expertise to soothe tense and sore muscles from all that shopping and sightseeing. And unlike most indoor spas, guests can choose to have their treatments outdoors, amid a Balinese-style garden, artificial waterfalls and mud pools.

Do we hear the guys rushing to sign up? Don't push your luck too far, fellas. Spabotanica has separate outdoor facilities for men and women.

Where to stay? Choosing the right hotel to match your budget and lifestyle is no problem either. The intrepid tourist can go budget or do Singapore in style and stay at The Ritz-Carlton (yes, the hotel with the humongous, baguette-shaped bathroom windows overlooking the city below), as did our group.

And don't bother to unroll the Venetian blinds attached to the giant window while you take a dip in the bathtub. The awesome view from high above the Ritz is far too precious and few to waste.

E-mail the author at alexvergara@inquirer.com.ph



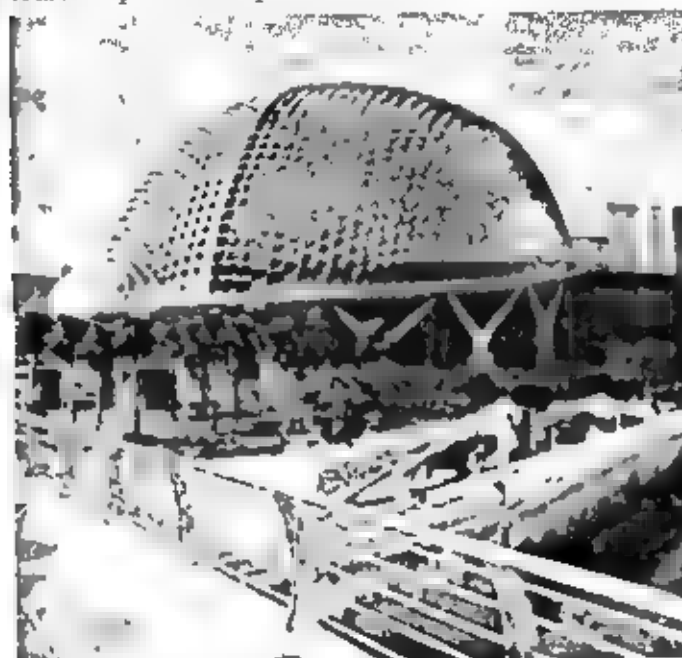
DANCING QUEENS. The three lead characters in "Mamma Mia," the latest imported musical to debut in the city state.



PUTTING ON THE RITZ. The Ritz-Carlton Millennium Singapore is without a doubt one of the island's best hotels.



LION CITY. Singapore also offers wholesome family entertainment all-year round.



SHOWTIME. The newly built Esplanade is the ideal venue to show all those imported plays and musicals.

TRAVEL BRIEFS

Spanish food fest in Tagaytay

FLUJO Hotels & Properties, together with the Economic and Commercial Office of the Spanish embassy, holds the food festival "Flavors of Spain," Oct. 16-31 at the new Taal Vista Hotel in Tagaytay City.

Chef Mikel Arrieta will be flown in from the Basque for this festival.

The "Flavors of Spain" food festival will also be held in the Pearl Farm Beach Resort, Davao City, Nov. 19-30; Club Punta Fuego, Nov. 19-30; and Terrazas de Punta Fuego, Dec. 10-19.

The festival is supported by the Trade Commission of Spain ICEX (Spanish Institute for Foreign Trade), Allied Dornier and Air France.

Call 7501999, 7513088/89 or (046)4131000.

Self-service check-in for airline passengers

NORTHWEST Airlines has added more self-service check-in kiosks for travelers

at Manila's Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

The three new kiosks allow customers with electronic tickets to check in for their flights from Manila to Tokyo, Nagoya, Japan, the United States or other destinations.

Travelers can also use the kiosks to select or change seat assignment, get WorldPerks frequent-flyer information and more.

Northwest plans to have self-service kiosks available in all 15 airports it serves in the Asia-Pacific region. It has already 934 kiosks in 198 airports.

Northwest offers bonus frequent flier miles for first-time users of its self-service check-in. Until Dec. 31, they will receive a one-time bonus of 1,900 frequent flier miles for checking in at a Northwest kiosk in Asia-Pacific. Travel must be on an e-ticket.

No advance registration is required, but users must be members of Northwest's WorldPerks frequent-flyer program.

Tagaytay on a budget

THE NEW Royal Taal Inn offers people a chance to enjoy Tagaytay at about half the price of other hotels along the ridge.

Guests who stay for at least seven days and pay in advance can get a deluxe room at P1,540 net per night on a weekday, while the superior room goes for P1,848. Weekend rates are P1,848 and P2,156 for deluxe and superior rooms, respectively. Guests get a 50-percent discount on the fourth night of their stay and a free seventh night.

Royal Taal Inn is on the Tagaytay-Calaamba Road, Imuhin Central, Tagaytay City. Call (043) 4131066 or 0927-5551144, e-mail tagaytay@dreamvsa.ph or visit www.royal-taal.com or www.tagaytay.com.

Northern Palawan cruise

DISCOVERY Cruises Philippines offers a four-day, three-night stay on board the 80-footer luxury MV Lagoon Explorer that takes

travelers to northern Palawan.

The newly renovated 10-cabin catamaran cruise ship will go around the Calamian Bay. It departs every Monday and Thursday, October 2004 to May 2005 from Coron, Palawan.

It is owned and operated by Blue Horizon, in cooperation with Cub Paradise. Call 8384956-60.

SMS 2 a vacation

THE DEPARTMENT of Tourism will soon launch its "Text a Vacation" program in Central Luzon, through its Region III office.

"Text Tourism" will give tourists the necessary information related to their chosen destinations through text or short messaging system (SMS).

A fee of P2.50 will be charged for every text message sent.

Smart subscribers will key in 700-DOT (the Globe number will be announced later) on his/her mobile phone to get the data needed.

Visit the DOT Central Luzon web site, www.luzoncentral.com.ph.

Fun science lessons for tykes

DISCOVERY Suites' Urban Tykes program was launched recently at the Magellan Room. The affair featured story-telling sessions, science demos, games and other surprises. Dumex, Kidzworld, the Sacred Heart School Sun Valley, Adarna Books, MA Club, Summit Publishing, Cadbury and Crumby supported the event.

An equally entertaining and educational series featuring "Musical Instruments" by Eric Antonio, "Caring for a New Pet" by Patty Pata, Marie Ramos' ballet demo, and a taekwondo presentation courtesy of coach Jec Panotes of the Ateneo Taekwondo Team followed.

On Oct. 23, it's going to be a morning of knowledge on good values with the theme "Good Kids, Great Kids." Early registrants will get a free Urban Tykes membership, a happy hats show, goodie bags, and lots of surprises. Entrance is free but pre-registration is required. Call 6352222.

What Kind of a Guy Are You? Take this test and find out!

Calling all warm-blooded males!

It is time to discover what type of guy you are and get the best fragrance that suits your distinct personality. Answer the 10 questions below and find out!

The type of girl you are attracted to is often:

- a sporty, soccer playing, bungee jumping kind of girl
- your cute and sweet best friend
- a sophisticated, sexy model type
- a trendy, fashionable and style leader
- a funky and self-assured chick

2. Your idea of a perfect date is:

- having breakfast early in the morning before trying out the newest skydiving site
- starting the evening with dinner, then a movie you both want to see, and then ending the night with a little before you take her home
- watching a play and then taking her to dinner in a nice, expensive restaurant
- having a candle-lit dinner before attending the most awaited fashion show
- an out-of-town trip checking out cool underwater caves in Palawan

3. As you fetch your date, you give her:

- the coolest dry-fit tank top from Nike

b. a box of her favorite chocolates.

c. a bouquet of flowers.

d. nothing. You're already paying for the rest of the date.

e. the latest CD of Marilyn Manson.

4. Your typical, everyday fashion is consist of:

- sweat pants, a t-shirt, and your broken-in cross-trainers
- jeans, a collared shirt, and rubber shoes
- a suit or long-sleeved barong. You need to dress up for work
- a flashy polo shirt shows off your four built, slacks, and new leather shoes
- new leather pants you have been dying to try out and a sleeveless top

5. Your favorite sports are:

- everything and anything because you love all kinds of athletic activities
- basketball and soccer
- tennis and golf
- wake boarding and surfing
- sky diving and rock climbing

6. When you have free time, your friends will most likely find you:

- working out in the gym

b. hanging out in your friend's house.

c. enjoying a cup of tea at the country club.

d. at the latest party of the hippest bar in the metro

e. cruising the streets on your brand new big bike.

7. The biggest thrill comes from:

- climbing Mt. Everest
- traveling the world
- spending lots of money
- throwing the biggest, coolest party
- rage driving to see great white sharks in their habitat

8. Your dream job is being:

- head coach of the LA Lakers or a golf pro
- a sales and Marketing Director of a multinational company or a Congressman
- a Wall Street Broker or Neurosurgeon
- an eventologist or DJ
- a tattoo artist or gynecologist

9. Your dream automobile is:

- an Overland Jeep
- a BMW X3
- a Mercedes Benz SLK
- a Ferrari
- a Hummer

10. Your dream Big Bike is:

- Aprilia Sport
- Ducati

c. Harley Davidson

d. Moto Guzzi Balabino

e. BMW Rockster

Ready to know what type of a guy you are?

Mostly A: You fall into the Athletic and Sporty male personality. You live for the thrill and adrenaline that sports can bring. Athletic and sporty guys should use electrifying fragrances like Axe Energy, which has a refreshing fougre green scent, combined with the sporty and refreshing scent of lemon, mint, and bergamot.

Mostly B: You are the well-loved Boy-Next-Door type of guy - wholesome, fun to be with, and a relaxed best friend to many women. You make a girl confident to introduce you to her parents because you are sweet, polite, and charming. The scent for you is Axe Phoenix - a light and woody scent that has a fresh and vibrant fragrance with a top note built around green apple and enhanced with mint and lavender accords.

Mostly C: You fit into the Classy and Macho male personality who is confident, accomplished, and a go-getter. You most likely exclude the James Bond appeal that draws women. The fragrance that is most compatible with men of this James Bond caliber is Axe Gravity. The magnetic fragrance of Axe Gravity comes from a distinctive rush of contemporary fougre green notes combined with modern aromatic and citrus elements.

Mostly D: You are the Hip Trendsetter who enjoys being in all the coolest parties and events in the metro. You are the fun-loving party animal, constantly painting the town red. Axe Pulse was made especially for the hip and trendy man such as yourself. Axe Pulse combines the freshness of citrus, basil, and pear with hints of flora, fusion and sensual spices, jasmine, geranium, cardamom, and black pepper.

Mostly E: You are the Edgy and Wild male that many women are attracted to. You are spontaneous, adventurous, creative and exciting to be with. You do not adhere to the norm and are never afraid to break the rules. Axe Dimension will definitely complement your personality because the enigmatic fragrance is fresh, aromatic, and oriental. Its scent is light, watery green, and citrus with a spicy note.

Now that you know what type of male personality you possess, it's time to grab that bottle of the Axe fragrance specially made with you in mind. Aside from experiencing the Axe-effect, you can get the chance to win a brand new Moto Guzzi Balabino, BMW Rockster, Harley Davidson, Ducati or Aprilia in the Axe Big Bike Promo. Deadline for submission of entries is at midnight of October 10, 2004. Text AXE to 2955 for details.

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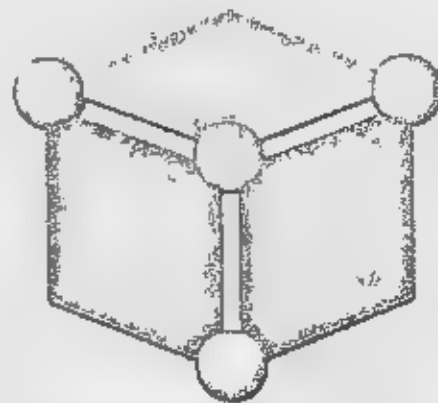
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Homebuilders' harbor

The Ortigas Home Depot takes the concept of the one-stop household need shop a step farther

Text by Anne A. Jambora
Photos by Chito Vecina

THE SURGE in real estate and construction over the last decade has spawned the home depot, a one-stop shop for the homebuilder. Taking this step farther, the new Ortigas Home Depot, built on a sprawling 25,000-sq-m lot, put together under one roof about 100 specialty hardware boutiques, all specialists in materials and construction.

A haven for homebuilders, the Ortigas Home Depot houses bargain suppliers of the best products at reasonable prices. It contains a complete set not only of hardware but of household items as well, enabling consumers to construct their homes from scratch, from furnishing and accessorizing—and even finding the perfect house pet. The concept effectively eliminates the need to drive from one place to the other in search of the right product.

"We brought in the specialty suppliers to complement what we lack at the Home Builder Superstore," says managing director Michael Co. The Ortigas Home Depot is a two-story edifice at 1 Doña Julia Vargas and Meralco Avenues, Barangay Ugong, Pasig City.

The Home Builder Superstore is the Ortigas Home Depot's 5,000-sq-m anchor store that carries a wide variety of the basic homebuilder's needs—more than 60,000 items overall—such as kitchen, toilet and bath fixtures and accessories, rugs and carpets, doors, tiles, flooring, drawers, cabinets, knobs, lighting fixtures, tools, storage items, heaters, microwave ovens, industrial electric fans, etc. It even has a paint mixing section for customized colors.

A specialist comes in if the consumers have specific requirements for, say, their kitchen cabinetry, where marble or granite or limestone

HOMEBUILDERS/H3



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Windmills in our midst

GREENPEACE Philippines reports that it has started a campaign to make wind power a primary source of energy to meet the country's needs. It is calling on the government to adopt a policy that will enable the use of wind power by the year 2020.

As a renewable resource, wind power has strong potential, especially in the face of rising energy demands and oil prices. Greenpeace envisions an energy mix that would be made up of (at least) 12 percent wind power and, the rest, other kinds of energy like solar, geothermal, hydropower, etc.

To see how well it can work, Greenpeace delegates toured potential wind farm sites in Negros recently. They noted the enthusiastic interest of Negros folk in wind power as the answer to their energy needs.

Asian model

By rejecting polluting energy sources, goes the report, Negros has become an Asian model for community-based clean energy generation. Wind farms are also being set up elsewhere in the country, like in Northern Luzon.

The government, says Greenpeace, has announced it intends to make the Philippines Asia's top producer of wind power. The announcement, made by Energy Undersecretary Eduardo Manalac in June, virtually puts a government imprimatur on such a project, especially as it was made during an international renewable energy conference in Germany this year.

When it achieves its goal, says Athena Ronquillo-Balesteros,

SEEING GREEN

Doris
Gaskell Nuyda



Greenpeace energy campaigner, the Philippines will put an end to its dependence on "obsolete fossil-fuel based energy."

Greenpeace's role, she adds, is to help the government "in catalyzing investments in the projects because of our global reach as an international organization." The environment group is optimistic about the local wind farm situation. It says, harnessing wind—and with the the right policy and financial incentives—will "blow" the Philippines into the renewable energy age.

Blown away

To environmentalist-lawyer Antonio Oposa Jr., wind power is worth considering because the Philippines is a country "constantly blown by monsoon winds." As long as there is government support, "native creativity will go a long way in developing efficient batteries and composite material to make the best use of wind power (from 'The Laws of Nature and Other Stories')."

It isn't as if wind power has not been tried and tested. For centuries, people, especially in Europe, have used windmills to pump water, irrigate fields and grind

grain. In the Netherlands, windmills were developed in the 16th century and remained unchanged until the 19th century, when wind was first used to generate electricity. Improved technology has led to greater efficiency, which promises to improve even further in time.

Solar energy 'cousin'

Wind, according to Environment (a Saunders College publication), is an indirect form of solar energy since the radiant energy of the sun is transformed into mechanical energy (defined as a movement of air molecules). Thus, like solar energy, wind is a highly dispersed form of energy. Harnessing it to generate electricity makes it a valuable source.

Aside from The Netherlands, the world's largest cluster of wind turbines is found on the island of Oahu, in Hawaii. Also, in the mountain passes of California are numerous wind turbines now known as wind farms.

The advantages of wind power are considerable. It does not cause major environmental problems, and it produces no waste (it is, thus, clean energy). The only possible problem, according to Environment, is aesthetic, as the wind turbines or wind machines tend to cover the landscape, much like electric poles, thus ruining beautiful scenery.

Fortunately, most wind farms can be located in sparsely populated areas where the wind blows hard and free.

E-mail the author at dorisyuyda@yahoo.com



potting medium

Drainage hole
with coarse sand



Beware of the rains

ALTHOUGH rain is good because it carries nitrogen from the atmosphere that contributes to the health of the plant, you have to know the situation of your potted plants. With the constant rains or by watering with a hose, some potted plants will become water-logged.

This means water stays over the soil for a while and does not get drained immediately. Rainfall causes the soil to compact clogging the drainage holes. The stored water with organic matter like soil and compost becomes acidic after a certain period, causing the leaves to rot and the plant to die eventually.

Before the yellowing of the leaves becomes serious, immediately repot the

plant. Remove the old soil, cut some of the dead or old roots, clean the pot as well as the drainage holes and lay a wire mesh with coarse river sand that will serve as strainer. Use fresh and porous potting medium then put back the plant. Trim some of the branches and cover the topsoil with sphagnum moss.

The moss will serve as mulch, retain moisture and prevent soil erosion. Place your repotted plant in the ICU (Intensive Care Unit)—an area where there are no playing children and animals, and that is constantly moist, shady but not dark, airy but not windy, and sanitary.

Bring the plant out to get partial sun when new growths develop. After about a week, place in full sunlight.

For more information about gardening, call 9394593.

GREEN TIPS



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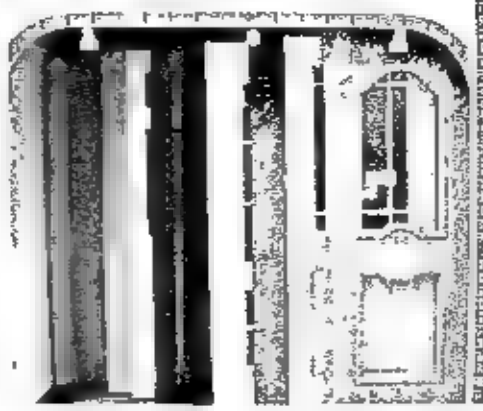




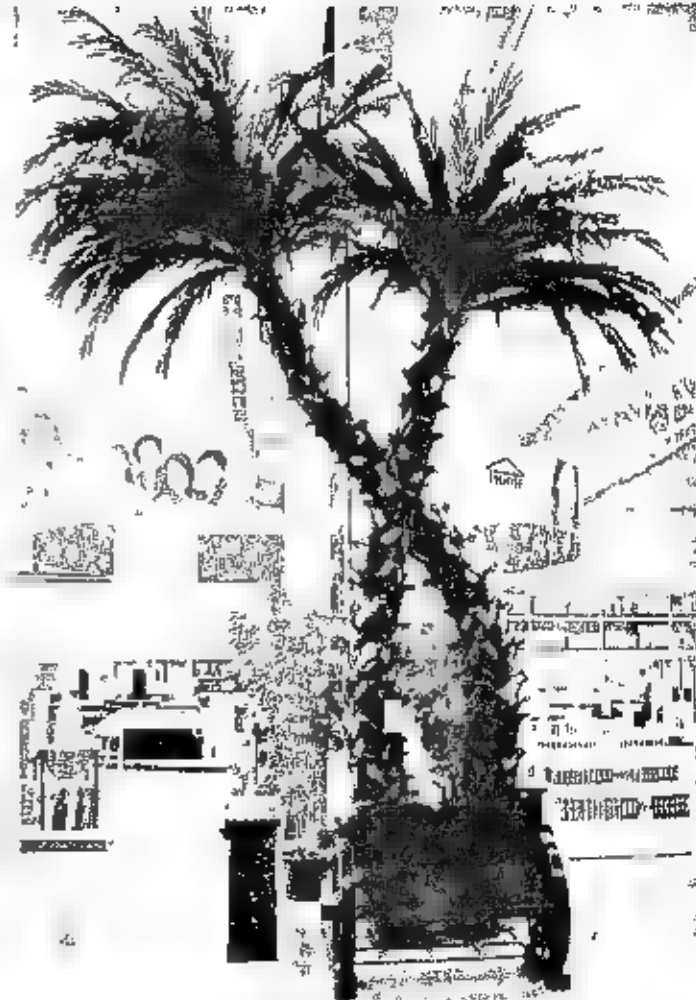
THE CLASSIC bathtub



MOLDED frosted glass doors

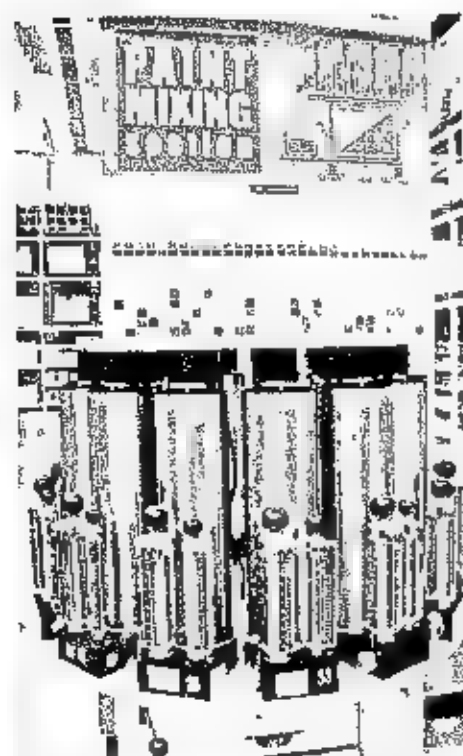


WOODEN panel doors



TWO-HEAD California curvy palm from India

Homebuilders' harbor



PERSONALIZED colors can be had at the depot's Paint Mixing Station.

From page H1

have to be polished and cut and installed. For maximum customer convenience, the Ortigas Home Depot has one of the widest shopping spaces in the nation; it is fully air-conditioned, well-ventilated and well-lit.

"We humanized the nature of the construction products by making them more appealing to consumers," managing director Ferdinand Co, nephew of Michael, says. "We made sure we make ourselves attractive to housewives or careerwomen who want to improve their house, or even to teenagers who want to make their space more relaxing."

Pet shops

Shops for pets, animal and plant care products are located on one strip called Pet Hypermart, which also has a professional pet care service center. Ferdinand says the Pet Hypermart aims to become one of the largest pet care centers in the metropolis.

"The Ortigas Home Depot is in response to the fast changing lifestyle of Filipino consumers who are more demanding in terms of aesthetic appeal, and very particular about getting the best price for their money," Michael says.

The Depot will also have one of the largest furniture and appliance retail and showroom areas. At more than 6,000 sq m,

the showroom has tenants such as Blims and Automatic Center. "The frustration of most people is going to one store to look for home furniture and then go to another to buy an office chair and head for Balintawak because they need something for their bedroom," Ferdinand says.

Soon to be fully operational is the Ortigas Town Center, under which are the Ortigas Home Depot, Ortigas City Walk, Ortigas Auto Depot, Ortigas Supermarket and the Ortigas Garage.

The Ortigas City Walk will be a row of restaurants that connects one area to the other. The Garage is the retail shopping area similar to a nongge, and the Auto Depot a bigger, cleaner version of Banaue, where car owners can have their vehicles checked, fixed, tinted or painted.

Ferdinand says the Ortigas Town Center is the place to go not only to shop for one's home, but also to have the car checked, to dine or do the groceries, and to shop for clothes, among others, at competitive prices.

"The Ortigas Town Center is the synergy of all good things in life," Michael says.

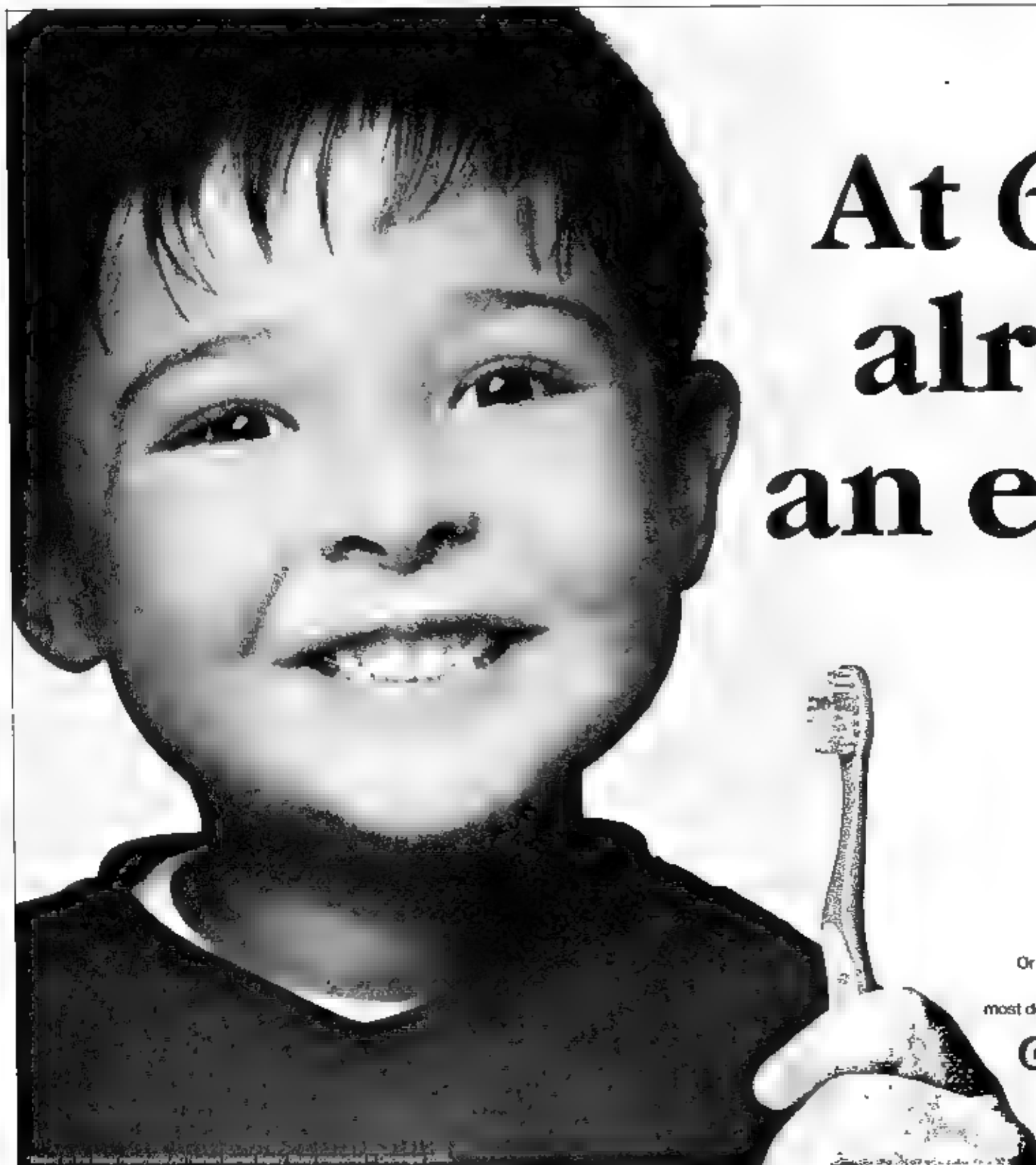
The Center is owned and operated by CW Marketing and Development Corp., a joint venture between the Cebu Overseas Hardware Co. Inc. (Cohci) and West Point Industrial Sales Co. Inc., which has over 50 years



experience in supplying hardware and construction requirements. This is the second home depot project of Cohci after it established the Cebu Home Builders Depot in Cebu City.

ASSORTED outdoor lamps

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

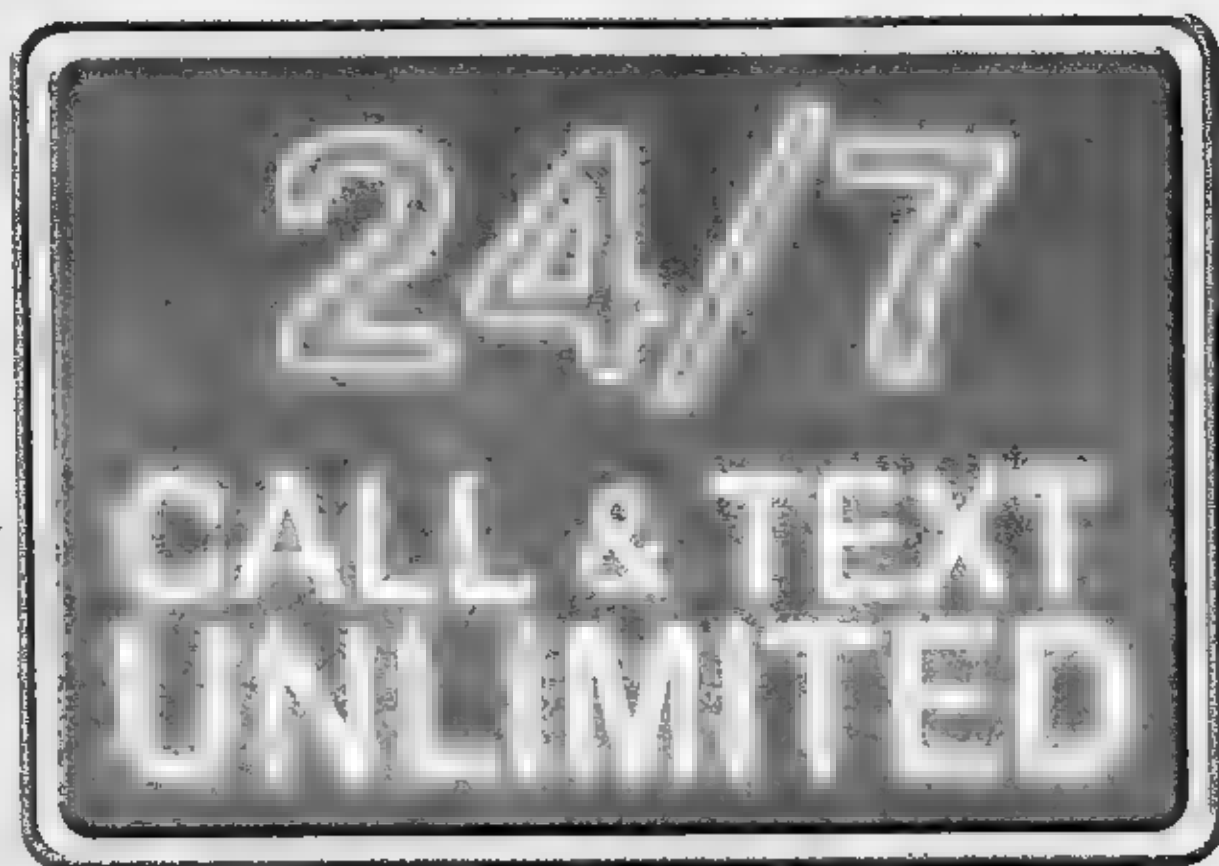


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A study in contrast

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Jim Galan Pascualan

WHEN she acquired two studio units in a Makati high rise condominium, businesswoman Yolly Hilario wanted both to look sleek and modern, but at the same time different.

To achieve her vision, she hired architect-interior designer Dante Aguirre.

"I wanted something that looks cool and clean," says Hilario, former president of the Rotary Club of Makati. "Since both units are far from big, going ornate was out of the question."

She couldn't have made a better choice, as Aguirre is known for his clever use of glass, steel and mood lighting.

One of the first things Aguirre did for the first unit was to replace the small, unattractive kitchen cabinets with custom-built cupboards that echo the studio's modern look. He also had the place repainted in ivory and the bulky toilet fixtures replaced with more streamlined pieces.

"I've lost track of how much I've spent," says an amused Hilario. "The expenses didn't end after acquiring the units. You have to be ready to spend some more to recreate something to cater to your taste and lifestyle."

The glossy floor tiles remained, but Aguirre revised the plain ceiling in the receiving area into a floating one with a series of cutouts. Green light emanates from the cove of each cutout, adding to the unit's contemporary feel.

"The ceiling was the hardest part to do," says Aguirre. "I used green lights instead of blue because the former looks more hip. Besides, I find the color [blue] a bit sad."

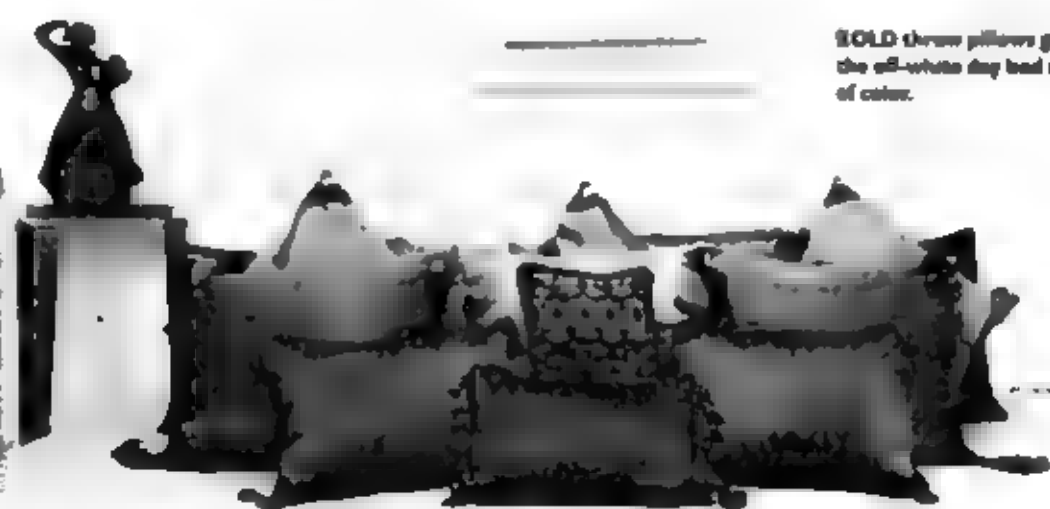
Fancied art

A series of paintings juts out from the middle of the ceiling to highlight whatever Hilario fancies. And there are quite a number, as the unit has several charcoal paintings of female figures by Maang and glass accent pieces designed by Aguirre himself.

"To give the area an illusion of space," he adds, "I had a series of mirrors installed by the dining table. I would have wanted a huge, single piece of mirror, but the elevator can only accommodate so much."

In keeping with the studio's modern flavor, Aguirre designed a suede sofa with shiny chrome legs. Several bold and shiny throw pillows add a dash of color to the beige,

Dante Aguirre provides two looks to two condo units of the same occupant, an experiment in design divergence



SOLD throw pillows give the off-white day bed a dash of color.

This September, Shopwise gives you & your family a strut, daddy, and show off your sassiest best at our annual Family Fashionista Showdown! Witness all the glamour, as mommy, daddy, and kids alike vie for coveted titles in 5 categories: DADDY GROOVY, Mommy Bongga, SASS-icious Sassy Sis, and Cool KIDDO. Winners in each category will walk away with P50,000.00 in cash plus a glitz 1-year modelling contract with Shopwise. Your mommy partners saunter on with P10,000 each!

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ITALIAN-meets-japanese aesthetics



SLIDING glass divider sections off bedroom from living room



MIRRORS impart an illusion of space to the room.

A study in contrast

From page H1

space-saver of a couch, part of which doubles as a chaise lounge.

A laminated coffee table in off-white from Bo Concepts and an area rug with geometric patterns complete the living room showcase.

Attractive throw pillows in various shapes, sizes and colors are also strewn about on an off-white day bed found in the bedroom. Hilario herself had the throw pillows made from imported textiles she bought from trips abroad, while Aguirre designed the day bed.

A dark, oval-shaped Tato Baleri footstool from Domani doubles as an accent as well as a conversation piece. This time part of the bedroom wall features "Molecules," an abstract by Jun Duarte.

Taste

An area rug made of lambskin and dyed in black acts as a perfect foil to the glossy, all-white floor.

"That's one thing I like about Tina Yolly," says Aguirre. "Aside from knowing what she wants, she also has taste. It definitely made the job a lot easier."

The dining table, which is made from frosted glass, echoes a series of sliding frosted glass panels that divide the private from the public area. So as not to obscure sunlight coming from the balcony, the duo agreed from the start to use frosted glass over wood.

"Since most of my children move around Makati," says Hilario, "this unit has become a halfway house to them. It was made to look young to reflect the sensibilities of its occupants."

In contrast, she adds, the second unit suits her and her partner's sensibilities better. The unit's earthy, pastel shades are warmer, its padded furniture pieces, custom-built by Simbulan Industries of Bulacan, bulkier and more tactile.

"I go here almost every day," says Hilario, who lives in another part of Metro Manila where the family's garment business is located. "We make use of this unit more often than the other one."

In lieu of a floor-to-ceiling frosted glass divider, Aguirre has sectioned off the bedroom with a smaller version, which mimics the height of the private area's built-in cabinets. Again, he made use of a series of mirrors to make the public area look bigger than it actually is. This time, too, the dining table is made of clear instead of frosted glass.

"The look is homier because we used more wood and cushions," says Aguirre.

Unlike the first unit, which faces Salcedo Village and Gil Puyat Avenue, the second unit offers a breathtaking view of Makati's central business district. The two views complement the two looks of the units.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph



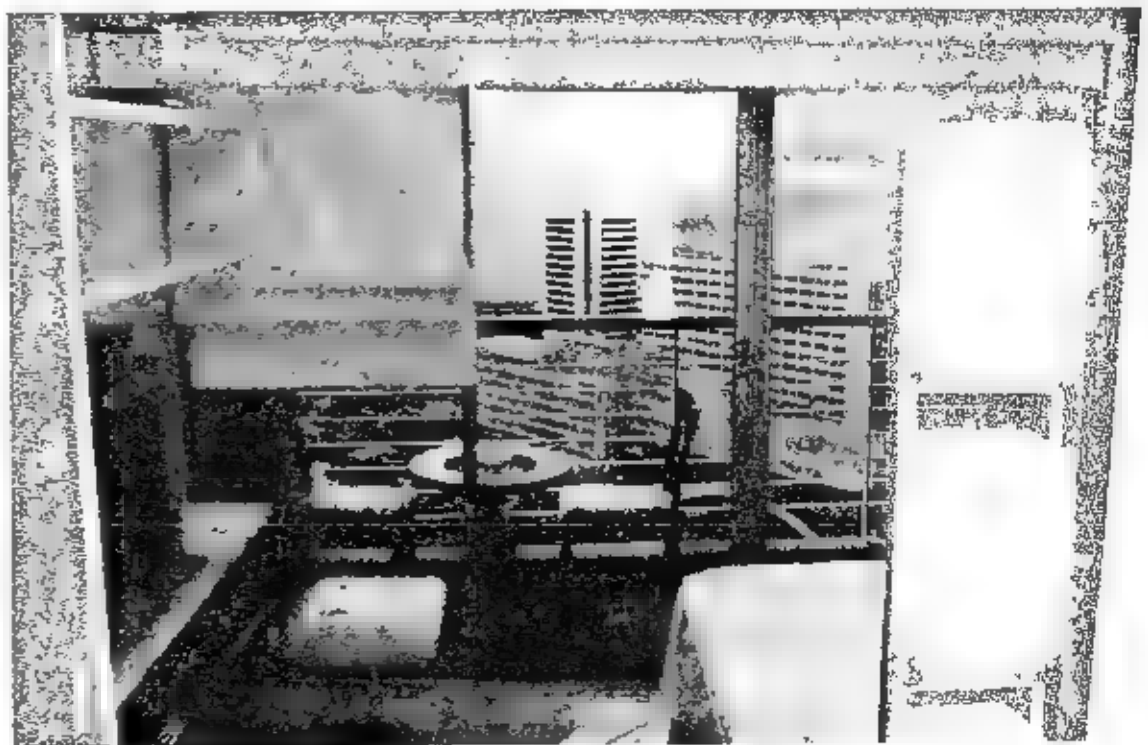
SECOND unit has warmer colors.



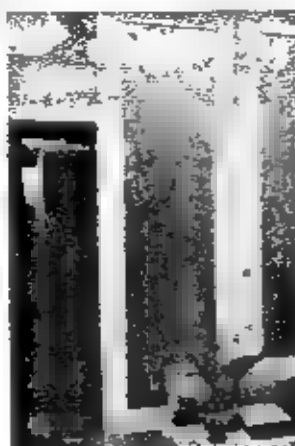
DIVIDER mimics the height of built-in cabinets.



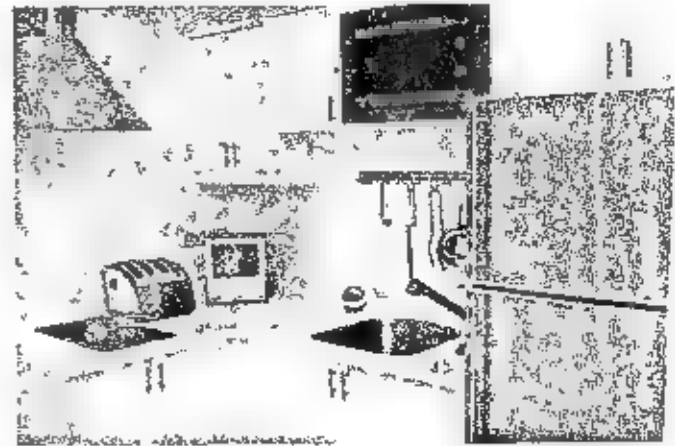
CLEAR glass-topped table in second unit



BEDROOM offers a breathtaking view of Makati's CBD.



MALANG'S work adorns this wall.



SLEEK kitchen in first unit



GREEN glow comes from cove lighting.

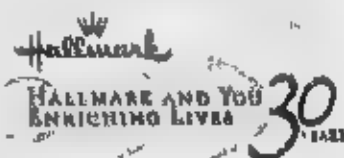


FOYER with Aguirre's accent pieces



Joyce C. Hall
Founder

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- Who would have known that a teenager from Nebraska carrying two shoe boxes of picture postcards in 1910 would lay the foundation to one of the most renowned brands today? The ingenious teenager was Joyce C. Hall. He was the founder of Hallmark Cards, Inc., a worldwide organization based in Kansas City, U.S.A. which now produces millions of cards a day, worded in 30 languages and distributed in more than 100 countries.



MAYA ANGELOU
Life Mosaic Collection

- There's a Hallmark for each occasion and for every generation. With innovation and creativity, Hallmark expands its line of products to adapt to the evolving global and local cultures.

- In 1974, Hallmark Cards arrived in the Philippines. National Book Store through its founder, Socorro Ramos, received the exclusive license to manufacture and distribute Hallmark products in the country. Due to Hallmark's increasing market share, an independent company was built to plan and distribute its products nationwide. The Hallmark license was entrusted to Filstar Distributors Corporation.



- Hallmark is a classic. Based on a study conducted by Filstar's research team, Hallmark remains to be the most prominent greeting card brand. Ninety-six percent of the respondents prefer Hallmark over other brands. As Richard Tann's song goes, "No one throws a Hallmark card away, for no one throws away memories."

Hallmark Touches Lives of Indigent Leukemic Children

Moved by the spirit of kindness and led by the value of social responsibility to the Filipino community, Hallmark collaborated with Leukemic Indigents Fund Endowment (L.I.F.E.) in February 1996. L.I.F.E. is a non-government organization dedicated to save lives of indigent children battling against leukemia and its costly medication. Now on its ninth year, Hallmark for L.I.F.E. showcases Christmas cards by local artists who selflessly donate their artworks. A portion of the sales goes to L.I.F.E. to subsidize the medical treatment of the children.



A Night to Remember



The Hallmark Diamond Award (Most Outstanding Hallmark Dealer) is given to **Metro Gaisano**. Receiving the award is Merchandising Manager Edna Prieto. She wins a round trip ticket for two to Hallmark Cards, Kansas City, U.S.A. with free hotel accommodations.

The night of September 30, 2004 turned into an unforgettable evening at the Manila Polo Club for Hallmark and their partners in business. As it celebrated its 30th anniversary, valued retailers were honored during the event for their commitment and contribution to Hallmark's success. They were awarded based on biggest sales volume, least returns, prompt payment, best rack location and effective merchandising display. Hallmark International sponsored all the awards.



Hallmark International's President Jon Stuart (R) and Filstar Distributors Corporation's President Maximo Ucauco (L) present the Hall of Fame Award to **Shoemart, Inc.** Receiving the award is its Founder, Henry Sy, Jr.



Scott Chaloud, Hallmark International's licensing and export director (L) and Maximo Ucauco III (R) award **National Book Store (NBS) Area 2** for being the Most Outstanding NBS Area. Receiving the Triumphant Award is the Area Manager, Linda L. Lahaylehay. She wins a round trip ticket for two to Hong Kong with free hotel accommodations.



National Book Store Glorietta is recognized as the Most Outstanding NBS branch. Area Manager Alce Cruz and Branch Manager Del Abante receive the Ruby Award which entitles them to two round trip tickets to Hong Kong with free hotel accommodations.



Owners of **Jet Bookstore**, Mr. and Mrs. Noli Viscocho, hold the Hallmark Gold Crown Store Award trophy for being the best exclusive Hallmark dealer.



Shopwise bags the Hallmark Platinum Award, National Capital Region. Receiving the award is Karan Malani, division manager.



The Hallmark Platinum Award for Mindanao goes to **NGCC-New City Commercial Center**. Receiving the award is Ivy Lim, president.



LCC-Liberty Commercial Center wins the Hallmark Platinum Award for Luzon. Receiving the award is Rubina Barceñas Yu, merchandising manager.

Recipients of the Hallmark Pearl Award

National Book Store SM North Edsa, National Book Store SM Megamall, National Book Store Greenbelt, National Book Store SM Manila, National Book Store SM Cebu, National Book Store SM Fairview, National Book Store Alabang Town Center

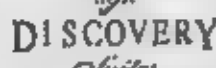
Top 30 Hallmark Dealers

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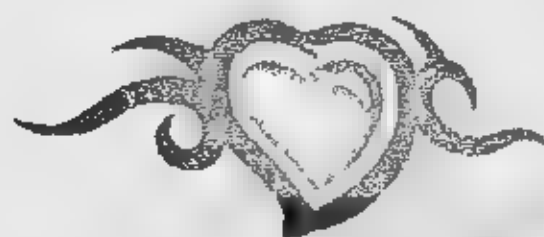


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Inno Sotto's scent and sensitivity

By Carmela Sanchez
Contributor

The top designer gets up close to more
muses with a very personal scent

INNO Sotto Mondo. The three nouns suggest mystery and majesty. Collectively, they signify a world created, lived and influenced by a leader of Philippine high fashion. It is a world created with utmost care, lived in absolute enthusiasm and filled with genuine warmth and personality. Very much like the man himself.

ISM (ism.)

The three letters represent Inno Sotto's artistic venture outside of clothes. It is the realization of his dream—his own fragrance line.

"I have always been scent-sensitive," Inno said in the midst of the technical and production racket for his gala show tonight at the Ayala Museum. "ISM was a natural result of my inclination to create."

It was in 2001 that Inno opened talks with Rustan's through Rico Tantoco, now the company's president and chief operating officer, about a fragrance line.

"We thought it would be a good way to make my work and brand accessible to the general public," said Inno.

At the request of Ambassador Bienvenido Tantoco, Rustan's chair, Rhoda Campos, Rustan's vice president for cosmetics and toiletries, worked with Inno to see the project to fruition.

"Not everyone has access to my work," said the haute couture designer. "Instead of getting into what seemed a predictable route of starting a ready-to-wear line, I opted to be non-traditional by introducing my work and brand through something that fashion houses and designers eventually opt to have, but not establish themselves with."

He said he felt that a fragrance line would allow him to generate a following through a somewhat unconventional direction.

"The fragrance is a translation of my imagination into a medium that is meant to be enjoyed by all. At least that's how I saw it," he added.

New world

Fragrance becomes the base on which Inno Sotto's new world of pampering and self-indulgence will grow. The three variants of ISM—Huit, Deauville and Miró—are the foundation.

"Scent is a very personal matter. ISM's three variants were created with as much work, energy and focus as I put into each one of my couture pieces," he said.

Inno might have become known for his women's fashion, but he created the fragrance line with men in mind.

Huit is a combination of citrus, spices, floral and woody aromas. It evokes eternity and success and means "eight" in French. It brings out positivism and confidence.

Deauville is inspired by a walk along Deauville, France. It combines citrus and green musky ingredients for a fresh and soft fragrance.

Miró, like a painting by the famous artist, is vibrant; it has a citrus base but also combines pepper and violet.

Inno meticulously hand-picked the natural ingredients, making several trips to Grasse, France, for that purpose.

Partners perfect

Through Rustan's, he was able to link up with the 200-year-old perfumery house, Charabot. The French house has a legendary reputation for sourcing the most-prized roses, jasmine, violets, orange blossoms, narcissus, lavenders, ylang-ylang, geranium, vetiver, cinnamon, clove and many others for its experiments on scents.

Charabot was a perfect partner for a most meticulous artiste. The process was personal and collaborative, involving trips to and from France on the part of Inno, until at last they came up with a fragrance that satisfied the designer's sensibilities. There are plans to spin off the perfume to soaps and candles.

The fruits of Inno's venture with Rustan's and Charabot will be unveiled formally at the designer's invitational couture show tonight titled "Around the Moon, Inno Sotto: Five Women," with President Macapagal-Arroyo as guest of honor.

Inno Sotto Mondo promises to help us indulge and pamper our bodies. It also promises to keep us company for a good many years—as Inno Sotto has done for the past 25 years.

ISM will be sold in the country exclusively at all Rustan's Essences, with an eye to distribution in Southeast Asia in the future.





PATRICK Rosas

Patrician noir

PATRICK Rosas, makeup artist and author of the books "Images" and "Bluses," gives a preview of the look he will spin and weave for the Inno Sotto show.

What are the colors that you will be using for the show?

Shadows of noir and rich tints to enhance the diverse beauty of our Filipina models.

Will you give the models a certain look?

Yes, of course. It's kind of a femme fatale look, but a very modern interpretation.

How will you match the look with the clothes of Inno Sotto?

After a series of meetings and trials, Inno Sotto and I put together our ideas so the hair and makeup will match his new and exciting collection.

What are your reasons for using Chanel for the makeup?

I first used Chanel makeup for Inno Sotto's show "Made to Dream" a few years ago and since then it has been my privilege and honor to use the products of the House of Chanel.

Do you have any inspiration

for the look you will create for the show?

It's a combination of glamour and style.

How did you start in the business?

Michael Salientes spotted me in one show in the early '90s and got me to work with him. But it was the Asean design show that really opened the doors for me.

Who inspired you to pursue a career in being a makeup artist?

Old Hollywood movies and the great goddesses of glamour and style.

Where did you study your craft?

I'm a self-taught artist, and I know I still have a lot to learn if I have to reach my full potential.

Do you think Filipinos can make it in the makeup industry abroad?

Definitely! But we have first to prove our expertise and professionalism if we want to be noticed in the international arena.

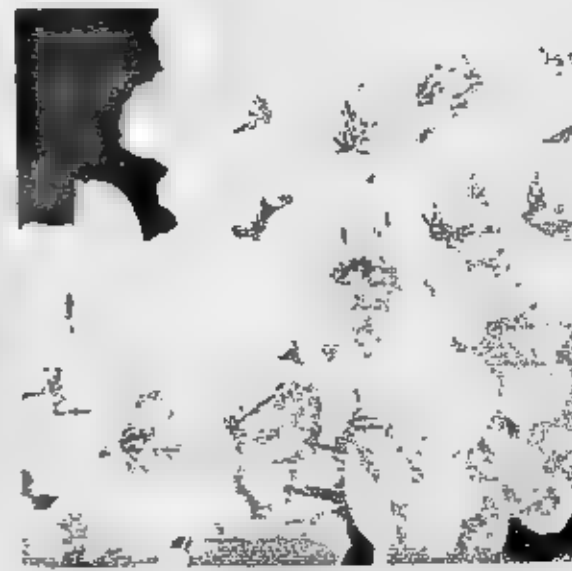
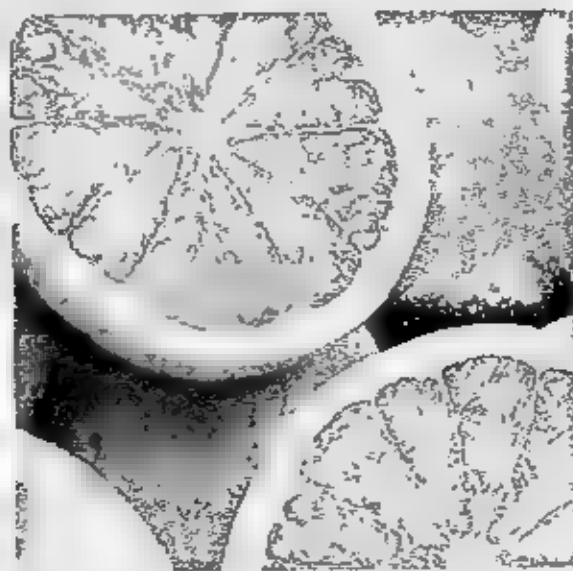
What can you advise the beginning makeup artist out there who want to succeed?

Work hard and be patient.

CHANEL



PHOTO: GUY ARO



The scent and its well-sculpted bottle are redolent of the optimism of the venerable French house

The sun always shines on Féraud

LOUIS Féraud the man and Féraud the house have stood for dynamic happiness, optimism, light and enlightenment. It is evident in his fashion, the symbolism in his first corporate mark, his painting collection and his prolific career.

These elements served as the inspiration for Wilham Skinner to design the Féraud signature fragrance.

"The creations of Féraud have strength and ease of understanding," he said. "To convey this spirit I wanted to use an icon that was universally identifiable. I found the variety of work that has come from Mr. Féraud to be symbolic of the ever present source of life that is the sun. From his birthplace (in Arles, in the south of France) to the consistent luminosity in his creations, the sun has been a constant influence."

The sun, therefore, is treated as an icon sculpted into the glass, brushed with gold underlining its rays, whereas its center diffuses radiant yellow. Just like a promise of optimism and an ever-radiant sun that defies the seasons.

The clarity of this message is evident in the simplicity and clarity of the glass. The bottle's shape portrays the fluidity, asymmetry, fantasy and movement, that is also representative of the House of Féraud and its fashion.

"To make the icon float and not be broken, it was important to the integrity of the concept to make the cap and bottle one form," says Skinner. This gave reason for the use of a



LOUIS Féraud

spray cap, which answers this challenge.

Fragrant optimism

Senior perfumer at Firmenich, Jean Pierre Bethouart, creator of the new Féraud fragrance, is seduced by the optimism, the femininity and the radiance conveyed by the couture brand.

A naturalist perfumer in love with rich and noble materials, Bethouart was inspired by

the wonderful scent of his garden's cherry blossoms.

Cherry blossoms convey the most delicate and noble fragrant announcement of a coming spring and the triumph of optimism it fosters. Bethouart created Féraud around this sumptuous cherry blossom note, offering the exquisite, delicacy of white petals sparkled with sensual and mischievous fruity accents, the coming fruit is revealed in a light cherry note, while a snow white almond feel is giving a touch of sensuality.

A white flowers' bouquet completes the image of radiant femininity: softness of gardenias, noblesse of lily and sunny accents of ylang ylang and sunflowers.

A soft powdery feeling of pollen is developing into a wrapping trail, enriched with sophisticated white woods.

The final touch upon this white structure is pure light: rays of colorful pear nectar and vivacious grapefruit highlight the radiant signature.

Féraud fragrance, as its sunny bottle, is the essence of the new spirit of Féraud, capturing energy and light: a fragrance as a promise of an ever lasting radiance.

Féraud 30 ml—P2,200

50 ml—P3,100

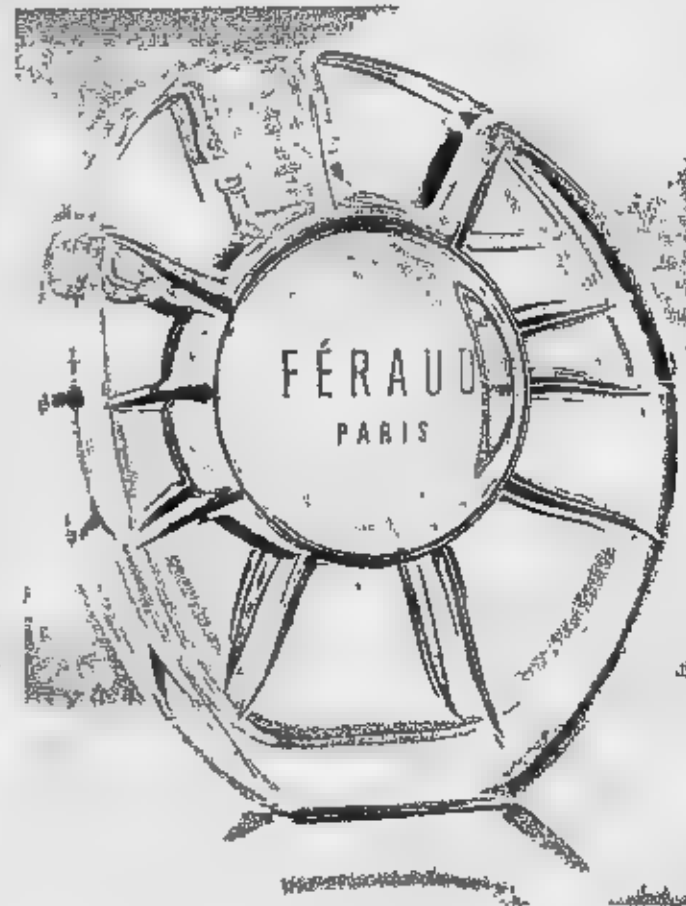
75 ml—P3,900

Body lotion—P1,295

Shower gel—P1,300

Deodorant spray—P975

Available at Rustan's Essences





Nars candles nurse
the senses to peace
and well-being

Flame and breath of tranquility

NARS candles were created to elevate the senses and instill a peaceful ambience. Each candle possesses a uniquely delicious aromatic scent formulated to enhance the mood, invoke the senses, and evoke individual memories.

Encased in either white or black matte glass with the Nars signature logo, each candle is composed of rich essential oils in a soft, paraffin-free wax base, allowing for an optimum burn time of 70 hours.

Bosphorus. A seductive combination of pure lilac blossoms and sweet essence of hyacinth meld with a burst of crushed green leaves laced with hints of currant and mandarin to help round out the middle. Notes of peony and orris mingle with raspberry and subtle aquatic notes to introduce the dry down, a balance of sensuous silken musks, precious woods and amber notes.

Oran. Flavored with Tahitian and Asian influences, the complex blend of tuberose and white gardenia blossoms is heightened by floral touches of violet, jasmine and heliotrope. Sweet balsamic undertones of styrax and resin complement and balance the vibrant citrus, bergamot and grapefruit notes, along with luscious leafy greens.

Acapulco. A delicious top note of rich velvety chocolate is combined with a delicate blend of whipped cream accord and coffee bean for a provocative intensity and depth. The fragrance's dry down stimulates the senses with a distinctive base of cocoa powder and creamy vanilla, developing the concoction of scents.

Bosphorus and Oran candles are encased in a white matte glass, while the Acapulco candle is encased in a black matte glass.

Nars candles, at P2,950 each, are available at Rustan's Essences.



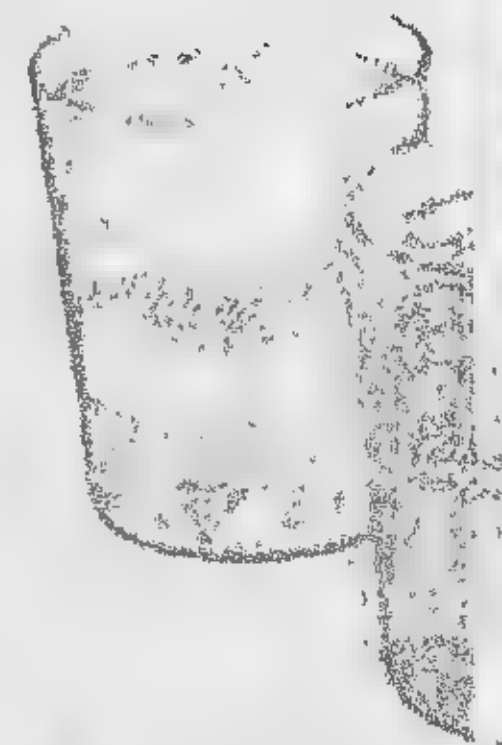
MARTIN NIEVERA

PERFORMER, IMAGE MODEL, FATHER

A good performance is assured once I light my favorite candle from essences 30 minutes before I go onstage.

Rustan's

MAKATI ALABANG ROBINSON'S PLACE MANILA CEBU



Mediterranean magic

CHRISTIANE Celle's first fragrance, Calypso Mimosa, was created in 1995 when the French-born entrepreneur decided it was time for a signature scent.

Raised in Cannes, on the Riviera, where the yellow mimosa covers the surrounding hills, Christiane had wanted a fragrance that evoked the Southern breeze of the Mediterranean and the fragrant gardens of Provence.

Originally created for the loyal clientele of celebrities and jet set vacationers devoted to Christiane Celle's Calypso boutiques, the Calypso Christiane Celle collection is now distributed to upscale retailers and perfumeries.

The fragrances, candles and soaps are exclusively manufactured in the old tradition of French perfumery in Grasse, France.

Loyal users of Calypso scents include Alicia Keys, Cameron Diaz, Cindy Crawford, Helena Christensen, Amber Valletta, Lucy Liu, Reese Witherspoon, Nicole Kidman, Christy Turlington, Drew Barrymore, Kate Moss, Lauren Hutton, Gwyneth Paltrow and Niki Taylor.

Calypso fragrances

Today, there are 10 eau de toilette sprays with matching scented candles and soaps.

Mimosa—Calypso's signature scent is a blend of rose, mimosa and Jasmine, topped with a splash of green leaves.

Jasmin—exotic floral with traces of cumin and basil.

Well-lit and ad

WITH the takeover of the brand by William Miller (formerly of Chanel) and Benoit Rouquayrol de Bousse (formerly of Givenchy) in 2002, Comptoir Sud Pacifique started a new adventure.

As seasoned globe-trotters, Miller and Benoit wanted to revamp the brand in order to evoke travel, exoticism, sunshine and year-round holiday.

The two aspired to give Comptoir Sud Pacifique a new impetus in France and abroad, based on their unique concept, while offering women top quality products that evoke "the quintessence of travel."

The new Comptoir Sud Pacifique is conveyed today by the new perfume line: "Eaux de Voyage." The line is transposed to candles.

In order to offer candles with a high olfactory quality, Comptoir Sud Pacifique uses paraffin wax that is a mixture of seven components which, combined, provide optimal fragrance.

The candles consume themselves in a uniform and regular manner.

And in keeping with strict legislation from the United States, the wick of Comptoir Sud Pacifique candles is 100 percent cotton. This guarantees lasting use and a delicately perfumed atmosphere.

The candle varieties are:

Vanille Passion—Languorous vanilla that evokes sensuality and warmth.

Vanille Abricot—A velvety and sensuous harmony.

TWEETIE DE LEON

EDITOR, MODEL, DESIGNER AND MOTHER

Pregnancy becomes a glorious experience when I pamper myself with luxurious body creams from essences.

Rustan's

MAKATI ALABANG BINSON'S PLACE MANILA CEBU

French Provencan in a bottle

Calypso Mimosa in scents
and candles conjure the
French southern breeze
and the Provençal gardens

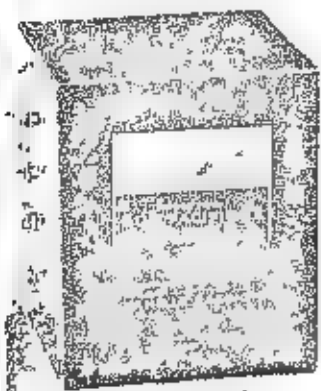
- Violence**—composed of violets, roses and honey.
- Rose**—based on the luxurious absolute of Bulgarian roses with a hint of musk and the warmth of the wood of Garac.
- Thé**—unisex perfume that starts on a strong note of bergamot and apple followed by the strong scent of Maté, the South American tea tree.
- Marine**—tastes of the sea, salty with the warm musky smell of driftwood warmed by the hot sun.
- Homme**—a unisex fragrance with fresh notes of tangerine, tarragon, grapefruit and musk.
- Ambre**—a blend of bergamot, geranium, golden amber and patchouli.
- Vanille**—a burst of fresh bergamot and orange blossoms, a warm heart of vanilla and a background of white musk.
- Chèvre-feuille**—a fresh mix of honeysuckle and orange bergamot with a warm finish of amber and musk.

Call 2198900 ext. 43.

Calypso is available at Rustan's Essences

Travel Adventure

The perfumed candles of
Comptoir Sud Pacifique
evoke the sounds and
sights of travel



- ny, lush and fragile.** Top note: jackfruit, apricot, papaya, base note: vanilla sugar candy.
- Aqua Motu**—A fresh breeze blowing in from the high seas, blending the invigorating ocean flavor with the feel of warm sand. Top note: helichrisum, heart note: ocean accord, ally of the valley, warm sand.
- Coeur de Vanille**—A sparkling and joyful fragrance with Polynesian charm. Top note: bergamot, orange, peach, passion fruit, heart note: cinnamon, rose-jasmine, opuhi flower from Tahiti, base note: sandalwood, vanilla, musk.
- Bols de Filao**—Top note: lemon, bergamot, papyrus; heart note: baie rose, violette leaf.

Comptoir Sud Pacifique is available at Rustan's Essences



BORGY MANDOC
MODEL, STUDENT

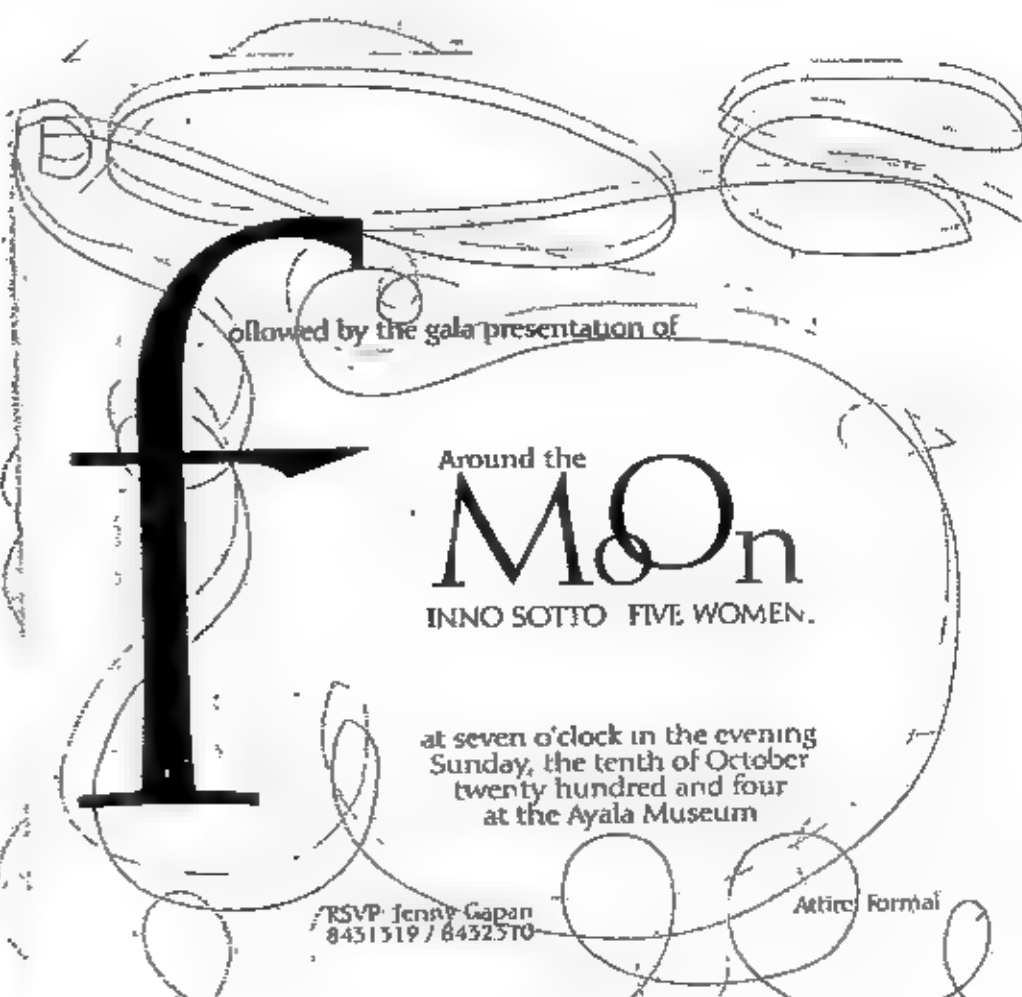
Spraying my favorite fragrance from essences gives me all the confidence I need to walk down the ramp



Rustan's

MAKATI ALABANG ROBINSON'S PLACE MANILA CEBU

INNO Sotto



followed by the gala presentation of

Around the
MOON
 INNO SOTTO FIVE WOMEN.

at seven o'clock in the evening
 Sunday, the tenth of October
 twenty hundred and four
 at the Ayala Museum

RSVP: Jenny Gapan
 8431319 / 8432370

Attire: Formal

Weaving the alchemy

With Inno
 Sotto
 around
 the moon
 we will
 go, on
 gossamer
 wings;
 many are
 eagerly
 awaiting
 his cast
 of colors
 and
 luxurious
 fabrics

By Bea Valdes
 Contributor

ENTERING his little library, behind a Coromandel screen, one finds an organized maze of books in simultaneous slumber. A mannequin from Paris stands at attention. On his desk, the select few books lay supine, yawning open with persuasion. Pens, markers, and pencils neatly sharpened are cradled in a cup. Nearby, a cloth measure is curled up, resting after a day of traveling across hemlines and waistlines, having charted out the geography of different anatomies. Everything is coated with the veneer of inspiration.

A whisper away, Inno is making a multitude of decisions. Just beyond the mirrored doors, he is calculating cuts that render sheets of fabric into flight; conjuring out from the folds the clothes that will fill his show. Just beyond those doors, the wonder of dressmaking is happening.

Inno emerges, with a smile. He has one more client to attend to before we talk. I observe him as he introduces himself to a would-be flower girl. He bends down and asks her what kind of dress she wants. Her head is nodding in time with his, a secret smile spreading across both their faces. They have made a pact, bound by tulle and ribbon; the spell begins.

When they leave, he sighs as he explains how he has remained undefeated by sleep. It can't be helped, he shrugs. Work follows him into the deep of the night. Indulging in that perfect quiet, he recharges his creativity. His pen sweeps across paper, sketching, skimming across a pattern. He softens the edges of modernity, following that rhythmic curve, that suppleness of elegance. Over the years, he has crafted amazing pieces, drawn from his imagination and ingenuity. Outside his window, the rest of the world winds down.

Mysterious women

"Around the moon," Inno confides. That is the theme for his upcoming fashion show. Men may represent the sun, in its boldness.

"But women," he muses, "are softer, more mysterious." There is an enchantment that women share with this silver shell. In their waxing and waning, both women and the moon pull the tides of motion. The world succumbs to their touch. Women, as they say, hold up half the sky.

His show is a tribute to their many facets. It is a carousel of ideas that express the romantic, the artistic, the tailored, the sophisticated and the elegant. Around we will go, on gossamer wings. Many are eagerly awaiting his cast of colors and luxurious fabrics. In every woman he finds a muse, catching her spark in the air. It is a celebration of their light. And the way, as a writer put it, a woman "can fill the room with her fingertips."

Then he talks of Paris and how it affords to explosions of perfect happiness. He reminds one of the simple tokens we love; the smell of coffee or freshly baked bread, the sweetness of daily realities.

When I leave his apartment, I sit in the car and continue weaving the threads of our conversation, humming happy music on my head. My fingers trace an outline of his sketch, a stitch at a time. I think of Inno, who has been distilling that elusive grace, continuously redefining what is classic for the last two decades. Tonight, he presents a collection for his world of diverse moods. We wait, with anticipation and ardor, to watch him hithering gowns with stars.

"Around the Moon, Inno Sotto: Five Women" at 7 tonight at Ayala Museum is presented by Rustan's Essences, the Philippine Tarler, Peugeot and Swatch with Globe Platinum, Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank and La Mer.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PHILIPPINE TATLER





Dip your senses to the spark of vitality

Diptyque candles are noted for their quaint but sophisticated scents

DIPTYQUE was founded in 1961 by three friends who had been trained at the Ecole des Beaux Arts and in-house decoration. Desmond Knox-Leet, Christiane Gautrot and Yves Coueslant.

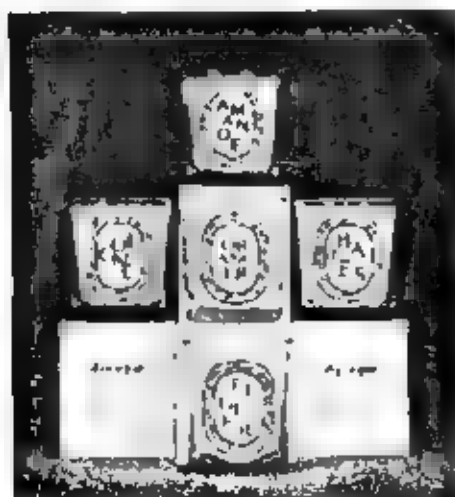
They first produced their own printed fabrics and then began importing to Paris the most renowned English perfumes.

In 1963, Diptyque started producing a series of scented candles which soon gained worldwide fame.

In 1968, Diptyque produced its first toilet water, l'Eau, based on a 16th-century pot-pourri and clove pomander recipe. This was to be followed by other creations, which came as toilet water or soap, as well as a rare and sophisticated toilet vinegar.

Boxes in a sober design with elegant lettering and stylish drawings are the unmistakable hallmarks of Diptyque products.

Diptyque is available at Rustan's Essences.



Tradition inspires new candle scents

LOCCITANE creates candles with unique Provençal scents inspired by traditions.

Made with a high concentration of perfume oil, the candles will burn for about 20 hours and have scents that are long-lasting. The 100-percent cotton wick is safe and non-toxic.

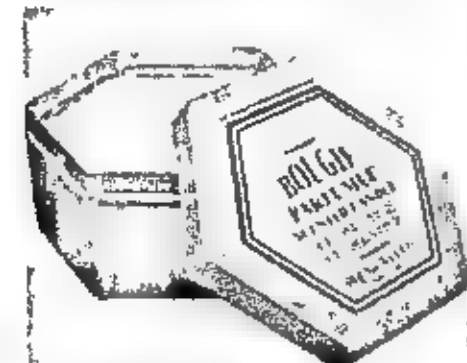
Amber, Blackberry, Candied Fruits, Cinnamon Orange, Clementine, Green Tea, Madagascar Vanilla and Orange Blossom emit a subtle fragrance while Honey Harvest has a soft, sensual scent to create a warm atmosphere.

Lavender Harvest, enriched with beeswax and perfumed with A.O.C. lavender essential oil, produces a calming effect.

The Aromachologie candle (relaxing), with lavender, geranium and tea tree scents, creates a calming warmth.

Verbena Harvest has a scent reminiscent of a garden full of lemon trees. It gives any room a fresh fragrance.

Loccitane is available at Rustan's Essences.



BEA VALDES
DESIGNER, MODEL

As an artist, I adapt to the latest fashion trends every season. But the one thing that remains constant is my lipstick from essences.

Rustan's

MAKATI ALABANG ROBINSON'S PLACE MANILA CEBU

DERMALOGICA
Power Rich



POWER
Rich™

1.7 FL. OZ.
50 mL

dermalogica

Power cream for crimping skin

Dermalogica's Power Rich treats stressed-out skin and checks premature signs of aging

IT'S never too early, and never too late, to begin a program of optimizing skin care. Dermalogica introduces Power Rich, the new maximum-intensity skin cream with exclusive acid-free technology which improves skin firmness and texture even before the first visible signs of aging appear.

Around age 30, depending upon genetics and lifestyle, facial fat thins out, cell turnover slows down, the spongy protein called collagen begins to lose its bounce and the stretchy fiber known as elastin begins to weaken, losing its ability to "snap back" into place.

The overall texture of the skin's tissue becomes softer and looser, and the skin's surface may become dull as the result of slower cell renewal.

While only surgery can fully disguise these classic characteristics of age, Power Rich stimulates cell renewal and enhances cell turnover while reinforcing the skin's ability to combat dehydration.

The restructuring cream provides intense smoothing and structural support to the epidermis and dermis, and treats the loss of strength, elasticity and moisture in skin tissues, which may show evidence of depletion as early as the mid- to late-20s.

The result: stronger, more resilient and smoother skin without the use of potentially irritating hydroxy acids.

Reducing irritation is especially significant in the context of environmentally sensitized skin, or skin which betrays cumulative, allergy-like responses to stress, environmental pollutants and other external factors.

Chemical synergy

Power Rich consists of three ingredient phases, processed to create a unique chemical synergy.

Phase 1—A blend of biostimulating active botanicals, such as Red Seaweed, Rice Extracts, Soy Protein Phytoestrogens, Kukui Nut and Licorice, treats the loss of strength, elasticity and moisture in skin tissues. This seaweed-enriched pH base stimulates collagen synthesis and inhibits enzymes, which break down the skin's natural structural support.

Phase 2—An acid-free exfoliator enhances cell renewal without the irritation or flaking associated with prolonged AHA use. Natural algae and yeast-derived complexes stimulate biosynthesis of collagen, enhancing skin firmness and moisture levels.

Phase 3—Skin-regenerating Vitamins A, E, C and B5 help reverse the signs of premature aging and sun damage while improving the skin's natural barrier function. Protein fragments mimic the skin's natural protein growth factors, while elastomer silicones optimize the barrier function of the epidermis, helping to repair the skin's appearance.

"This is a remarkable restructuring cream for skin, which is depleted and tired," said Dermalogica founder Jane Wurwand.

Power Rich is designed to be smoothed over cleansed skin morning and night, concentrating on areas of visible aging. Because the formula is highly concentrated, the product is best applied by itself, and allowed to nourish skin for one minute before makeup application.

The product is packaged in a 35-day supply of sealed metal tubes, accompanied by a metal key used to roll the tube for maximum product extraction.

Like all Dermalogica products, Power Rich is available only at S/L Essences Aesthetics, Makati, and G/F Russians Essences, Alabang.

MARK SAN DIEGO
VJ, MODEL

There is nothing more refreshing than a cool splash of water on your skin. When I use my essences body splash, that feeling stays with me all day.

Russian's

MAKATI ALABANG ROBINSON PLACE MAKATI CEBU

JOB Market

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2004
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1

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CONTACT US
For more information, please contact us at [phone number] or [email address]. We are happy to help you with any questions you may have.

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- Applicants must be willing to work in Pasay City

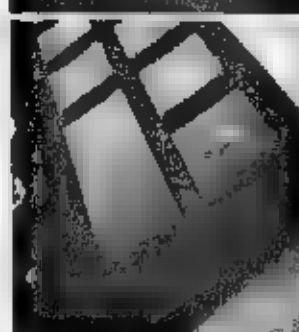
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- knowledge in MS Office
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jcnicer@yahoo.com
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- Via email at schwarz@zuelligpharma.com.ph
- Fax through (02) 867-3194
- Deliver or mail it to: HRD Recruitment, 2nd floor Zuellig Pharma Building, Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave., P.O. Box 2587, 1265, Makati City, Philippines

Please indicate the position code SCHWARZ-MR-04 on your application letters and resumé

**SCHWARZ
PHARMA**

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The Franchise Operations Manager will be responsible for the development, operation, and expansion of a franchise undertaking in the Philippines. He/She will manage this effort within a department consisting of professionals engaged in collaborative efforts with government units, industrial entities, health service providers, and non-governmental organizations.

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The successful candidate will be a results-oriented individual with proven entrepreneurial, management, and leadership skills. He/She will be a strategic thinker, a change agent, and a team player with a hands-on approach to work that will contribute to high levels of achievement within the organization. He/She must have exceptional proven skills in written and oral communications, public speaking and presentations, problem solving and analysis, and decision-making.

The candidate must meet the following minimum requirements:

- College Degree in Business Management or equivalent. A Master's Degree is an added advantage.
- Minimum of five (5) years relevant experience in sales, marketing or franchise system development and operation.
- A track record of high achievement.
- Highly organized, systematic, and hands-on work ethic.
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Suite 801, The Linden Suites
37 San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Pasig City
E-mail: hrd@frenzy.com.ph



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- Travel Management** - Highly adept in tour packaging and management of travel business; at least 5 years experience in the travel industry
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- Chemistry Instructors** - Graduate of BS-Chemistry; MS degree is an advantage; familiarity in Food Chemistry a must. At least 3 years teaching experience in tertiary level
- Chefs** - College graduate, at least Chef de Partie, 5 years work experience in a deluxe hotel, restaurant or cruise ship
- Event Managers** - College graduate. At least 5 years experience in M.I.C.E. industry with focus on hotel and/or travel-related events

Please send your updated resume with picture to the address or e-mail address below with a copy of College Diploma, Transcript of School Records and Professional License (if applicable)

**DLS - College of Saint Benilde
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Pilimco Foods Corp. is a member of the Abbotz group of companies and is one of the major players in the flour industry today. With over four decades of operation, it has built an extensive base of loyal customers nationwide. Together with Pilimco-Mauro Foods Corp., it is one of the most preferred suppliers of well-trusted flour and bakery ingredients under the brand names of Wooden Spoon, Sun Moon Star, Kulltap, Gold Star, Megastar and Diamond. While the Fil-Am Foods Inc. is one of the most respected feed manufacturing plant and swine farm operator owned by Abbotz, through Pilimco. All these 3 companies form the Food Group. The Group values people who are hardworking, customer focused, honest and team players. We are looking for more people to join our team as:

Tertiary Business Manager - Area Lead (Code: BMTM)

- Male, not less than 25 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- With experience on bread making & bakery troubleshooting
- Selling and negotiation skills
- Ability to communicate well, both in written and oral English
- Must possess valid driving skills
- Salary is negotiable

Technical Services Supervisor - Manila based (Code: TSM)

- Female/Male
- Must be a Licensed Chemist/Chemical Engineer/Food Technology or related courses
- With excellent baking technology skills
- Working knowledge of Statistical Process Control
- With at least three (3) years supervisory experience in DC Food Manufacturing
- Excellent communication skills, both written and oral
- Must be proficient in Windows-based program such as Word, Excel, Power Point etc.
- Salary is negotiable

Training and Development Officer - Cebu based (Code: TMO)

- Male/Female
- Graduate of Psychology or any relevant course
- Had background in competency development
- Working knowledge of training and development
- Excellent communication skills, Analytical
- Salary is negotiable

Warehouse Supervisor - Tarlac based (Code: WWS)

- Male
- Graduate of Industrial or Mechanical Engineering
- With at least 3 years supervisory experience in Warehousing functions
- Must possess minimum of three years experience on inventory management and warehouse operation
- Proficient in Windows-based programs such as Word, Excel and Power Point
- Salary is negotiable

Swine Nursery Supervisor - Tarlac based (Code: SNS)

- Male, between 21-40 years old
- Graduate of animal science
- With at least 2 years experience in commercial swine production
- Salary is negotiable

Human Resources Officer - Tarlac based (Code: HRO)

- Male/Female, 25 to 35 years old
- Must be a graduate of BS/BA Psychology or any business courses
- Must possess three years experience in Human Resources in supervising capacity in a manufacturing firm
- Proficient in Windows-based program such as Word, Excel and Power Point
- Excellent communication skills
- Salary is negotiable

Submit application and resume papers (with the CODES indicated at the envelope or at the email subject area) to:
For Cebu Applicants: HR OFFICER, Pilimco-Mauro Foods Corp., Kulltap Cove, Ilogan City
For Mindanao Applicants: HR OFFICER, Pilimco-Mauro Foods Corp., Kulltap Cove, Ilogan City
For NCR Applicants: ADMINISTRATOR, Pilimco-Mauro Foods Corp., 110 Legaspi Bldg., 115 Legaspi St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

Or send it thru email to: **gabucana@pilimco.com**

Tertiary Business Manager (2) for Bannagan & Bannagan (Code: TBM)

- Male
- Graduate of Animal Science, preferably with MS Degree in Animal Nutrition
- Must have adequate knowledge and experience in food formulation, development and conduct of training modules on Nutrition and Data collection and analysis through farm visits
- Has good communication skills both oral and written (English)
- Salary is negotiable

Business Process Engineer - Tarlac based (Code: BPE)

- Male/Female, not more than 30 yrs. old
- Must be a graduate of BS Industrial Engineering or any related course
- Preferably with Master's degree in Business Management or Engineering or has undertaken master's units
- At least 2 years experience on Macro Systems Analysis & Design and its actual system roll-out and project management
- Preferably exposed to ISO Project Implementation
- Can communicate well, both in written and oral English
- Computer literate
- Salary is negotiable

Tertiary Business Manager (2) for Bannagan & Bannagan (Code: TBM)

- Male/Female, between 25-30 years old
- Graduate of Animal Science or Veterinary Medicine
- At least 2 years selling experience in consumer goods preferably animal feeds or related products
- Possess selling, negotiation and sales driving skills
- Has good communication skills both oral and written (English)
- Salary is negotiable

Accounting Clerk - Tarlac based (Code: ACC)

- Male, between 20 to 27 years old
- Must be a graduate Accounting Course, preferably CPA
- Proficient in Windows-based program such as Word, Excel and Power Point
- Applicant must possess driving skills
- Excellent communication skills

Pigchasing Analyst - Tarlac based (Code: PA)

- Male/Female, between 21-30 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- Preferably with 1 year experience in encoding jobs
- Proficient in windows application especially excel program
- Must be keen to details

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• Above candidates must be Registered BSN Graduate with Min. 2 yrs. hospital experience

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REQUIREMENTS (2 Sets of the following in a brown envelope): Resume w/ Detailed Job Description (w/ Cases & Machines / Equipments Handled) Apoc. 2x2 pictures, School Credentials, Employment Certificates, Recommendation Letters, Trainings / Seminars Certificates

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Quality is our main business philosophy. We believe in satisfying the requirements of our clients consistently, timely and in the most cost effective way. We support this policy by investing in the career growth of our people and in the continuous improvement of our organization.

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We provide quality training and skills development in accordance with the international standards. Through this, our trainees will be equipped with the necessary skills in their chosen field of profession that will help them develop competence that puts them above the rest thus making them the preferred choice worldwide.

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In 1996, IPC began providing temporary personnel to the local businesses in Metro Manila. In 2004, it took on a nationwide contract with one of the largest of worldwide companies. From then on it has grown into a staffing organization to reckon with. IPC is licensed with the Department of Labor and Employment for Private Recruitment and Placement Agency No. M-01-00-060 and with Philippine



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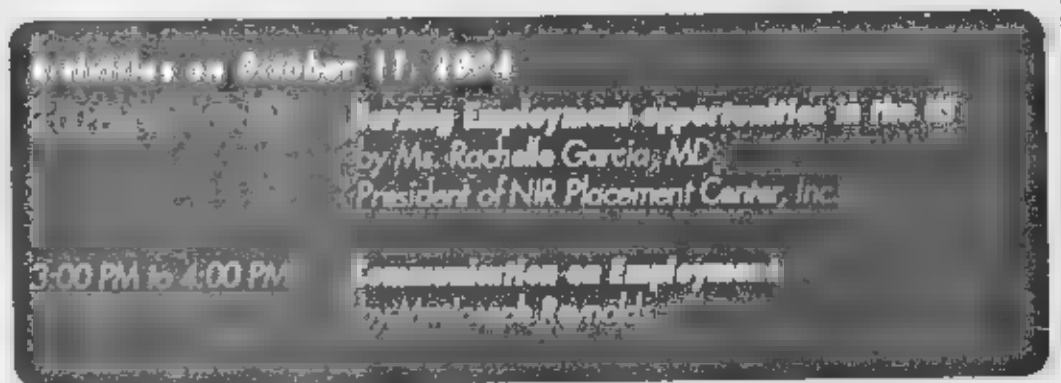
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Recruitment Officer

- M/F, 28-35 yrs old, Psychology Graduate or its equivalent
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- Experience w/ a recruitment firm is an advantage
- Good communication skills, and with pleasing personality.
- Can handle pressure & tight deadlines & computer literate

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November 19, 2004 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Pryce Plaza Cagayan de Oro Cannon Hill, Cagayan de Oro City Tel. 858-3111	November 21, 2004 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Marriott Cebu City Hotel Cardinal Rosales Ave., Cebu City Tel. 232-6100
November 23, 2004 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Metro Centre Tagbilaran City, Bohol Tel. 411-2599	November 30, 2004 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Manila Diamond Hotel Roxas Blvd. cor Dr. J. Quintos, Manila Tel. 528-3000

For more info, you may call/text Ms. Linda Quindo Ong Vano at
Cell No. 091630-8549642 or 0919-2434659 (use from Nov 12-30, 2004) or
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 Maureen, Batch 16
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As an international company, GHD provides opportunity to train and gain work experience in our offices abroad.

Civil Design Engineer

- Minimum 5 years civil design experience in land development
- Experience using CAD based design packages

Roads Design Engineer/MX Operator

- Minimum 5 years design experience

Water/Wastewater Design Engineer

- Minimum 5 years water/wastewater design experience
- Experience in using modelling and design software packages

Senior Structural Engineer

- Minimum 10 years structural design experience
- Experience in American and British standards preferred

Senior MEP Design Engineer

- Minimum 10 years design experience in building services

Senior Mechanical Engineer

- Minimum 10 years experience in Industrial plants, eg oil and gas, mining and/or food industries
- Experience in mechanical and process piping preferred

Senior Geologist

- Minimum 10 years experience
- Environmental site assessment experience preferred

Graduate Design Engineers

- Civil Engineering degree with excellent results
- Experience using AutoCAD preferred

Send your curriculum vitae covered by an application letter describing your suitability for the position on or before 15 October 2004 to:

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3D Animation/Graphic Artist

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- Experience using 3D studio Max, AutoCAD and Photoshop

Architect

- Minimum 10 years design experience

Interior Designer

- Minimum 5 yrs design experience
- AutoCAD and Photoshop experience preferred

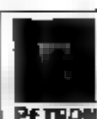
Landscape Architect

- Minimum 5 years experience

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The Recruitment Officer

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 Or e-mail their resume to: HRMD@petron.com
 Indicate in Subject Line: "Area Sales Executive"

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- Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend)
- Must know how to drive a car or motorcycle
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- Must have completed at least 2nd year college
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- Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend)
- Basic computer knowledge
- Internet savvy

ACCOUNTANT

- With salary of P90,000 - P200,000 per annum
- Must be an accounting graduate and must have at least one year experience in the same field
- Female, 21 to 27 years old, must be a self-starter
- Basic computer knowledge
- Knowledge in Quicken or Quickbooks an advantage
- Must have strong organizational skills with emphasis on accuracy

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Interested applicants may personally report from 11am to 4pm, Mondays to Fridays with resume and 2 x 2 ID picture to:

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Position requires an individual who possesses at least 3 years of circulation management experience and strong computer skills. Experience in all areas of circulation including sales and marketing, subscription promotion, single copy sales, fulfillment, customer service, data entry system management, planning, budgeting and ABC audits.

SENIOR ART DIRECTOR

Experienced and talented to lead and manage the creative department. With an extensive background in designing sophisticated publications. Responsibilities include conceptualizing, designing or supervising page layouts, quality control of photos, and closely coordinating not only with the local editorial and production dept. but with the overseas office as well. Must be well versed in pre-press and press operations, and design computer softwares like QuarkXpress, Photoshop, Freehand and Indesign.

SENIOR FEATURES WRITER

Preferably with at least 2 years work experience in media (especially in print), copywriting, PR writing, journalism or any related field. Applicant must have exceptional communication skills and should be highly creative. Meticulousness is a must. Candidate should have an excellent work ethic and respect deadlines. Must work well under pressure and be willing to work long hours. Must be patient and flexible, well-rounded and well-informed.

All applications will be treated with strict confidentiality

Please apply/send full resume to:

**THE PUBLISHER
PHILIPPINE TATLER**
Unit 11-A, 11th Floor, Manila Bank Bldg.
6772 Ayala Avenue, Makati City



**Urban Program for
Livelihood Finance and Training**
Starts and funds teaching lives through the years

UPLIFT is a dynamic Non-Government Organization specialized in micro finance operating in the Philippines since 1993. It has 2 programs servicing Calocan, Manila, Bulacan and Quezon City. 98% of UPLIFT workers are coming from the communities where the program operates. The total number of staff deployed in the different programs now is 165 professionals working with a spirit of NGO and volunteerism. We are taking this opportunity therefore to invite you and be part of the current team.

Finance and Admin Manager (FAM)

MISSIONS:

- In charge of financial sustainability and administrative concerns of Bulacan/OC program;
- To provide support, consultation and training on IT, Finance and accounting personnel of the program.
 - ☐ A CPA
 - ☐ 27 to 50 years old, with 5 years of relevant experience in related sectors, such as microfinance, banking or accounting and software development
 - ☐ Autonomous, dynamic, flexible, ready for challenge in a complex environment, with a strong capacity to think out of the box
 - ☐ Committed to work for an NGO where the main reward is the fulfillment to work with 165 young people dedicated to the services provided to more than 15,000 families.

Internal Auditor (IA)

- Ensure compliance to an efficient internal audit control procedures
- Ensure effectiveness in evaluating overall audit results, weighing the relevancy, accuracy, and perspective of conclusions against the audit evidence of the whole organization.
 - ☐ A CPA, with preferably 3 years experience in micro enterprise
 - ☐ Autonomous, dynamic, flexible, ready for challenge in a complex environment, with a strong capacity to think out of the box
 - ☐ Computer literate, preferably with experience in audit of information systems
 - ☐ Proficiency in oral and written communications
 - ☐ Committed to work for an NGO where the main reward is the fulfillment to work with 165 young people dedicated to the services provided to more than 15,000 families

If you think you meet the above qualifications and requirements, please forward your application letter and resume to:
dave.ayon@uplift.org.ph

The DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TEAM and its Sub Sectors through the PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES is implementing the Design and Market Upgrading Program for Wearables Sector (cosmetic jewelry and bags from natural materials), Handery Décor and Culture Sector and Home Furnishings Sector. The program requires the services of:

ONE DESIGN AND MARKET EXPERT

To spearhead innovations in product development and adaptation through market intelligence and design information gathering from international sources; provide directions in the preparation of trends presentation materials; upgrade the design information gathering, assessment and interpretation skills of PDOCP designers who will collaborate with manufacturers in product development

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

Must have sufficient international work experience in product development, marketing, and merchandising or related areas on a consultancy level. Sufficient knowledge of domestic and emerging market and design trends for US and Europe. Effective communication skills. Must be familiar with Philippine manufactured products and raw materials and its applications.

Program will commence as soon as possible. Interested parties may obtain pre-qualification forms from:

The Executive Director
PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES
PDOCP Building CCP Complex Roadside
300 Pasay City, Philippines
E-mail address: pdcp@dti.gov.ph / pdcp@me.com



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- Above average communication skills
- Computer literate: MS Word & Excel
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- Call center/cord card/telemarketing/customer service experience an advantage but not required

GRAPHIC ARTIST

- College graduate
- Proficient in Graphic Software: Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator & Corel Draw
- Can work under minimal supervision
- Hardworking and willing to work long hours

ACCOUNTING STAFF

- CPA
- Computer literate
- Preferably with working experience

You may send your resume at fax number 847-4798 or e-mail us at ehd@emerald.net

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Tel. Nos. 725-22-71, 724-57-22 Telex: (02) 725-22-71
Website: www.iso-builders.com e-mail: info@iso-builders.com.ph

LICENSED CIVIL ENGINEER

- Male, Licensed Civil Engineer not more than 40 years old
- Required skill(s): material take-off, structural & design works, cost estimation
- At least 2 years of working experience in the related fields is required
- Preferably supervisor / 1 yr. & up experienced employee specializing in Engineering - Civil / Construction or equivalent
- Proficient in English language both written and oral
- Proficient in computer software AutoCAD and MS-Office
- Full-Time position, head office Cubao, Q.C.

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In addition to the mentioned requirements, the candidates must:

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<http://www.dsalu.edu.ph>

The DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TEAMS and its Sub-Sectors through the PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES is implementing the Design and Market Updating Program for Woodcraft Sector (cosmetic jewelry and bags from natural materials), Handbag Sector and Giftware Sector, and Home Furnishings Sector. The program requires the services of:

ONE DESIGN AND MARKET EXPERT

To spearhead innovations in product development and adaptation through market intelligence and design information gathering from international sources provide directions in the preparation of trends presentation materials, upgrade the design information gathering, assessment and interpretation skills of PDDCP designers who will collaborate with manufacturers in product development.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

Must have sufficient international work experience in product development, marketing, and merchandising or related areas on a consultancy level. Sufficient knowledge of domestic and emerging markets and design trends for US and Europe. Effective communication skills. Must be familiar with Philippine manufactured products and raw materials and its applications.

Program will commence as soon as possible. Interested parties may obtain pre-qualification forms from:

The Executive Director
PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES
PDDCP Building, ELP Complex, Roxas Boulevard
1300 Pasay City, Philippines
E-mail address: pddcp@dti.gov.ph • pddcp@mozcom.com



PHILIPPINE

The country's premier social and lifestyle magazine is in immediate need of:

CIRCULATION DIRECTOR

Position requires an individual who possesses at least 3 years of circulation management experience and strong computer skills. Experience in all areas of circulation including sales and marketing, subscription promotion, single copy sales, fulfillment, customer service, data entry system management, planning, budgeting and ABC audits.

SENIOR ART DIRECTOR

Experienced and talented to lead and manage the creative department. With an extensive background in designing sophisticated publications. Responsibilities include conceptualizing, designing or supervising page layouts, quality control of photos, and closely coordinating not only with the local editorial and production dept. but with the overseas office as well. Must be well versed in pre-press and press operations, and design computer softwares like QuarkXpress, Photoshop, Freehand.

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**THE PUBLISHER
PHILIPPINE TATLER**
Unit 11-A, 11th Floor, Manila Bank Bldg.
6772 Ayala Avenue, Makati City

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- Computer literate (MS Word, Excel)
- Minimum 2-3 years old mobile phone
- Good credit card helps customer service experience an advantage but not necessary

GRAPHIC ARTIST

- College graduate
- Proficient in graphic software: Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator & Corel Draw
- Can work under minimal supervision
- Min. 2-3 yrs. exp. willing to work long hours

ACCOUNTING STAFF

- CPA
- Computer literate
- Preferably with working experience

You may send your resume at fax number 847-4798 or e-mail us at ehd@skynet.net



**Urban Program for
Livelihood Finance and Training**
Helping and helping live through the year

UPLIFT is a dynamic Non-Government Organization specialized in micro-finance operating in the Philippines since 1993. It has 2 programs servicing Calocan, Manila, Bulacan and Quezon City. 98% of UPLIFT workers are coming from the communities where the program operates. The total number of staff deployed in the different programs now is 185 professionals working with a spirit of NGO and voluntarism. We are taking this opportunity therefore to invite you and be part of the current team.

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MISSIONS

1. In charge of financial sustainability and administrative concerns of Bulacan/OC program
2. To provide support, consultation and training on IT, Finance and accounting personnel of the program

- ✓ A CPA
- ✓ 27 to 50 years old, with 5 years of relevant experience in related sectors, such as microfinance, banking or accounting and software development
- ✓ Autonomous, dynamic, flexible, ready for challenge in a complex environment, with a strong capacity to think out of the box
- ✓ Committed to work for an NGO where the main reward is the fulfillment to work with 185 young people dedicated to the services provided to more than 15,000 families.

Internal Auditor (IA)

MISSIONS

1. Ensure compliance to an efficient internal audit control procedures
2. Ensure effectiveness in evaluating overall audit results, weighing the relevancy, accuracy, and perspective of conclusions against the audit evidence of the whole organization.

- ✓ A CPA, with preferably 3 years experience in micro enterprise
- ✓ Autonomous, dynamic, flexible, ready for challenge in a complex environment, with a strong capacity to think out of the box
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- ✓ Committed to work for an NGO where the main reward is the fulfillment to work with 185 young people dedicated to the services provided to more than 15,000 families

If you think you meet the above qualifications and requirements, please forward your application letter and resume to: daya.aguinaldo@uplift.org.ph

ISO BUILDERS INCORPORATED

No. 11 Diod St. Brgy. Kaunlaran, Cubao, Quezon City
Tel Nos: 725-22-71, 724-57-22, Telefax: (02) 725-22-7
Website: www.sevenmates@yahoo.com e-mail: info@sevenmates.com.ph

LICENSED CIVIL ENGINEER

- Male, Licensed Civil Engineer not more than 40 years old
- Required skills: material take-off, structural & design works, cost estimate
- At least 2 years of working experience in the related fields is required
- Preferably supervisor, 1 yr & up experienced employees specializing in Engineering, Civil Construction or equivalent
- Proficient in English language both written and oral
- Proficient in computer software AutoCAD and MS-Office
- Full Time position, head office Cubao, D.C.

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Code: ESR

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- Previous team leader or supervisory experience is an advantage
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Code: CCS

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- Knowledge of Oracle's Database technology or eBusiness Suite products an advantage
- College degree required

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Code: EAS

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- Port Planners
- Mechanical Engineers
- Electrical Engineers
- Civil Engineers
- Transport Planners
- Tunnel Engineers
- Traffic Engineers
- Geotechnical Engineers
- Geodetic Engineers

Water and Environment Sector:

- Project Managers
- Water Supply Engineers
- Wastewater Engineers
- Hydrologists
- Dam Engineers
- Hydropower Engineers
- Electro-Mechanical Engineers
- Welding Specialists
- Environmental Specialists
- EGHAR Specialists
- Process Engineers
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- Geotechnical Engineers
- Geodetic Engineers
- Drainage Engineers
- Flood Control Engineers
- Watershed Management Specialists
- Saba Engineers
- Landfill Specialists
- Solid Waste Management Specialists
- Groundwater Engineers
- Air Quality and Noise Specialists

Agriculture and Social Sector:

- Project Managers
- Irrigation Engineers
- Agricultural Engineers
- Agricultural Economists
- Social Development/Resettlement Specialists
- Urban and Regional Planners
- Architects
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- Legal Experts
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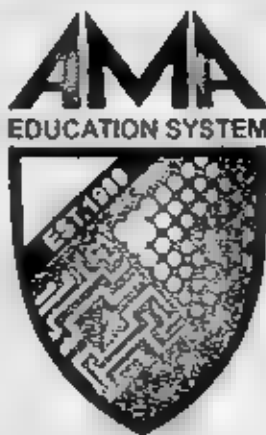
Qualifications:

- ☐ Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's Degree but preference would be on those with Master's Degree, Post Graduate Diploma and Doctoral Degrees
- ☐ Preferably ten (10) years professional experience in related fields
- ☐ At least five (5) years experience in internationally funded-projects (e.g. ADB, EU, IBRD, World Bank, JICA, JBIC, ISDB)
- ☐ Assigned/handled international project assignments (e.g. Asia, Europe, Africa)
- ☐ Must be willing to travel and undertake multiple project assignments abroad.

Interested applicants must send detailed curriculum vitae, stating contact details (e-mail, mobile/phone numbers), qualifications, years of experience, complete employment history (project name, duration of project, duties and responsibilities), languages, references and time of availability for interview

All application should be sent to P.O. BOX #763, Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City, 1135 Philippines or e-mail at businessdevdept@yahoo.com

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- Earned Master's degree in Nursing, major in Administration and Supervision
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College of Arts and Sciences

- PhD from a reputable school
- With noteworthy publications

College of Business Administration

- DBA or MBA, preferably CPA
- With noteworthy publications

College of Computer Studies

- MS Computer Science graduate
- With noteworthy publications

College of Engineering

- MS in engineering from a reputable school
- With noteworthy publications

TEACHING ASSOCIATES

School of Nursing

- Registered Nurse
- Master of Arts in Nursing graduate or master's Degree in Allied Health
- With at least 1 year clinical practice in their field of specialization
- Preferably with 1 year teaching experience

COLLEGES OF Arts and Sciences

- Graduate of BS Psychology, Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Information Technology, Information Management, ECE, Accountancy, English, Marine Transportation or social sciences
- With good scholastic records

NON-ACADEMIC STAFF NATIONWIDE

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

- NCR, Dumaguete, Batangas & General Santos
- Must have 5-7 years marketing / sales experience in a managerial capacity
- Preferably MA / MBA graduates from reputable schools here and abroad
- With excellent communication skills

MOVING AUDIT SUPERVISORS

- Graduate of BS Accountancy
- CPA would be an advantage
- With at least 2 years relevant experience
- Willing to travel nationwide

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

- Graduate of BS Accountancy
- CPA would be an advantage
- 2 to 3 years experience in non-life either with insurance or insurance broker

LAWYER

- Graduate of topnotch schools
- 1 to 2 years relevant experience
- Male

NURSES

- Graduate of BS Nursing
- Licensed

HR SUPERVISORS

- (for General Santos, Iloilo and NCR)
- Graduate of Psychology, Human Resources Management or any related courses

LIBRARIANS

- (for Lucena, Olongapo, NCR)
- Graduate of Library Science
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IT Auditor/Audit Officer - CPA, with experience in IT Audit and/or has audit background in a bank in a supervisory level, knowledgeable in basic programming

Product Officer - with experience in loans and deposit product development

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Send resume to: hrdrecruitment@plantersbank.com.ph

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- Mechanical or Electrical Engineer
- Hands-on experience in maintenance and trouble shooting for a number of years, preferable in food or poultry related business
- Ability to work independently and with high level of organizational skills and with a strong but pleasant personality
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- Flexible, immune to stress and with a good service sensitive attitude
- Willingness to travel abroad frequently (60-80%), duration of each period will be maximum 5-6 weeks.
- Highly computer literate

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BY A RESTAURANT AT THE FORT STRIP, GLOBAL CITY

One (1) RECEPTIONIST

- Female
- College level graduate
- With at least 1 year experience as a receptionist in a casual or fine dining restaurant
- With good communication skills; computer literate

Two (2) CASHIERS

- Female
- With at least 1 year experience as a cashier in a casual or fine dining restaurant
- Knowledgeable on the use of a POS system designed for restaurants
- With good communication skills; computer literate
- Willing to work on shifts

Fifteen (15) WAITERS / WAITRESSES

- Male/Female
- College level graduate
- With at least 1 year experience as waitress/waitress in a casual or fine dining restaurant
- With good communication skills; computer literate
- Knowledgeable in suggestive selling
- Must be willing to work on shifts

Six (6) COOKS

- With at least two (2) years of wide experience as cook in a casual or fine dining restaurant
- Must be willing to work on shifts

Two (2) FOOD RUNNERS

- College level
- With good communication skills; computer literate
- Must be willing to work on shifts

Two (2) DISHWASHERS

- At least high school level
- Experience as a dishwasher in a restaurant an advantage
- Willing to work on shifts

Please send a letter of application indicating therein the position desired, and attach resume or bio-data with 2"x2" ID picture.

Address your application to LOKALDERO HOLDINGS, INC., (Attn: Ms. THEA MACEDA, House Manager), 3183-A Harvard St., Pasig/Cainta, Makati City.

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Requirements:

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2. Not more than 35 years old

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9276426 loc. 570
9277293

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F, 23-28 yrs, graduate of Bus. Mgmt, HRM Nutrition, Food Tech or other food-related course, with experience in food service, for assignment in IIM or Laguna

STORE AUDITOR

MF, 22-28 yrs, graduate of any Bus. Course

Apply at:

26 Felipe Pina St., Bagong Ugay, Paoay City (near CEX)
(Monday-Wednesday 9am-5pm)



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is in need of

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Male or Female; 20-30 years old
Graduate of any 4-year course
Attractive, Fluent in English
5'3 for Female & 5'5 for Male
Willing to work on graveyard shift

Alert and patient

REQUIREMENTS

- Printed Resume, 1 pc. 2x2 picture
- Photocopy of Original of NBI Clearance (less than 1 year old)
- Birth Certificate & Transcript of Records

Applicants may apply personally at:

EMPLOYMENT DEPARTMENT

Ground Floor, EHA Building

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(Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.)

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- ✓ Energetic men and women of at least 20 years old and above
- ✓ Individuals who have a good command of English or Chinese language
- ✓ With or Without Work Experience
- ✓ Willing to start immediately (not presently employed or enrolled)

THEN YOU DESERVE:

- ✓ A STARTING PAY OF ABOVE AVERAGE INCOME
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- ✓ Career development and growth with our automatic promotion system
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See us in your PROPER BUSINESS ATTIRE with 2 pcs. (2x2) passport-sized pictures, complete resume, clipping of this ad and valid ID from Monday-Wednesday (October 11-13, 2004) from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. present another ID to gain entrance in the building.

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Apply only men or boys who fulfill the following qualifications:

- ☐ Male or Female
- ☐ College graduate
- ☐ Unemployed with experience in the same field

Successful candidates will have a daily salary and the opportunity to earn commissions and bonuses.

Interested applicants may call 985-2617 and 985-2518

For their application form at 9:00 a.m.

The quickest road to success

By Jason Michael Gracia

MUCH has been said about the trouble of a negative attitude and the power of a positive outlook. It has always been one against the other, with optimism always winning out in the end. But there is a third way, and in my opinion, it is the most powerful and beneficial of all outlooks. What is it?

Reality
Whether we like it or not, the world is neither good or bad, positive or negative. The world simply is. It favors no side, and throws bad luck toward no predetermined party. It is a mirror, giving back to us what we give to it. To understand this single idea is to gain the most empowering mindset possible. The world is yours for the taking.

Making it work

Marcelle Abney was a young woman living with cerebral palsy. For some, this would have brought an end to any hope for a successful and enjoyable life. It overwhelmed Marcelle many times, and she wondered why the world did this to her. This mindset didn't last long. The reality was, she had cerebral palsy. She didn't do anything to deserve it, she simply had it.

Instead of dwelling on the unfairness of life, she took her condition and made it work for her. Today, Marcelle, is a successful occupational therapist. Early on, she decided that her condition would give her an advantage working with others who could relate to her setbacks and needs. Marcelle saw the world as it was, and made it work for her.

We get what we give

The world is exactly like a computer. You put in software, your actions, and it delivers the appropriate feedback and reaction. Jeff Pryor was dealing with a handful of interpersonal difficulties at work. He didn't get along well with others, blaming their abrasive and unfriendly personalities for the situation.

But then something happened. A friend took Jeff aside and had a little talk with him. It went something like this. "Jeff, I know you've been having



ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY MISTADES

some trouble with the staff lately, and I know why you think it is happening. I'm here, as your friend, to tell you the truth. The people aren't unfriendly, and would be more than happy to treat you better, if you would start to treat them better.

"You see, Jeff, by thinking that your coworkers don't like you, you treated them that way from the start. They merely responded to your input. The reality is, you treat them like friends, and they'll respond with friendship."

Soon after, Jeff was enjoying work and his coworkers more than ever before. When he realized that he viewed the world in a way that made his life unbearable, he was able to shape his perceptions differently, bringing him desirable results.

Powerful mindset

If you put in negatives and frustration, you will receive negative outcomes and frustrating circumstances. The world doesn't care who you are, or what you do. Its only job is to respond to what you give it. Now that you know how it works, start playing the game to win and succeed.

Perhaps you feel that the odds are against you and you were dealt a bad hand in life. Maybe you are having difficulty losing weight, or can't seem to stop smoking. You may want to get a better job and make more money, or you simply may want to live a better life. Whatever it is, you can do it, be it, or get it.

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UP Solair invites alumni to 50th anniversary celebration

THE UNIVERSITY of the Philippines School of Labor and Industrial Relations (U.P. Solair) calls on its alumni to get involved in the various events lined up for this golden commemoration. Solair celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

Solair traces its roots to the Asian Labor Education Center (ALEC), established in 1954. Through the years, the College evolved from undertaking mainly workers' education through seminars and residential institutes for labor leaders from the Philippines and other Asian countries to a full-fledged graduate school offering a Diploma and Master of Industrial Relations (DiplR and MDIR) degree, together with specialized training and certificate programs in labor law, disputes settlement, human resources development, labor policy research, conferences and symposia, among others.

The main events will be held from Dec. 3 to 4. Solair also invites the public to attend the lectures. The celebrations, which will run from September to December this year, include the following:

- U.P. President Francisco Nemenzo's lecture "Philippine Labor Struggles: Contest of Ideas"
- Faculty lecture series on the theme "Political Economy and Philippine In-

dustrial Relations"

- Dean Froilan Bacungan's distinguished public lecture in honor of Dr. Cicerio D. Calderon: "Agenda for Philippine Labor Law Reforms"

- Philippine Industrial Relations Society's (PIRS) National Conference "Quality Partnerships Towards a Decent Workplace: Blending Homegrown with Global Practices and Strategies"

- Unveiling of the commemorative mural and opening of photo exhibit on "Labor Empowerment and Industrial Relations"

- Roundtable discussion "The Role of Labor Education Center/Asian Labor Education Center in Workers Education in Asia"

- Reminiscence and Memoirs, Awarding of Special Recognitions

- Symposium on "Strengthening Philippine Unionism in the Age of Globalization" U.P. Solair in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Philippine Office

- Grand alumni homecoming of U.P. Solair Alumni, in cooperation with the PIRS

For details, please contact Ian or Fina at telefax 920 7717, Mayet or Zeny at 927-8340, Didi or Edgar at 928-6396, and Del at 920-7693.

How do you deal...

From page 7

Do you tactfully point out the danger of buying at a lower price? Once you've run the numbers for a customer's specific situation, remind her that anyone who goes below this price will probably be losing money—and that someone who's losing money can't be relied on for service and support over the long haul. Don't trash your competitor, just highlight why your customer will sleep better at night if she's working with

Size those "price grinders" get you on

the ropes. But that doesn't mean you have to be a dope. Build a good business case for the sale and chances are good you'll score a K.O.

Here are the results from a recent workingwounded.com ABC news.com online ballot: Which description best describes your customers?

—Willing to pay list price, 9 percent

—Looking for a deal, 45.1 percent

—Won't stop till it's free, 45.8 percent

(Mr. Rosner is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at bob@workingwounded.com.)

Assistant Sales Manager

Responsibilities:

- Supervise operations of the sales team
- Monitor sales reporting, funnel and analysis
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- Plan and implement sales programs

Qualifications:

- Preferred candidates are those with at least 1 year sales supervisory experience
- Must have had prior field sales experience
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- Must have excellent interpersonal skills
- With excellent written and communication skills

Account Manager

Qualifications:

- Not more than 30 years old
- College graduate
- Minimum 1 year experience in IT products and solutions
- Strong work ethics, aggressive and hardworking
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Sales / Admin Assistant

Qualifications:

- Female, not more than 25 years old
- Computer literate
- Working knowledge of MS Office and Corel Draw
- Has initiative, fast learner, can work well under pressure with minimum supervision

Interested candidates may send their comprehensive resumé to sales@shellsoft.com.ph

Or mail to: Shellsoft Technology Corporation
3rd Floor Megastore Building,
Q. Araneta Ave. corner Agno Exd., Quezon City

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK/TELEPHONE OPERATOR

Incumbent operates electronic console in providing telephone service required by the organization. Places and receives long distance and overseas calls; types a variety of narrative and tabular materials such as correspondence, memoranda, reports, rosters, charts, tables, and narrative texts. Performs clerical work requiring knowledge of established office procedures and practices, especially in records filing.

QUALIFICATIONS: Completion of secondary school is required; college undergraduate or graduate (B.A. or A.B. course) is desirable. Two to four years of telephone operator experience in a company or business which has 150 local calls on a daily basis, of which a minimum of one year's experience in responsible administrative work required. Must be able to operate state of the art console-type operator switchboard. Must be able to compose non-technical correspondence. Must be computer literate (MS Word, MS Excel, Lotus and MS PowerPoint).

COMPENSATION: Competitive salary (including mid-year and year-end bonuses), health and life insurance, and a retirement plan is offered.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER 15, 2004

SEND LETTER OF APPLICATION WITH COMPREHENSIVE RESUME TO:

Human Resources Division
P.O. Box EA 423
1000 Ermita, Manila

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We are a domestic company engaged in Pharmaceuticals and as part of our expansion program we are looking for

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Qualifications:

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- Graduate or Undergraduate of any related courses
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- Preferably with sales experience but not necessary
- Hardworking, self-motivated and willing to travel
- Good Moral Character

With basic salary, transportation allowance, incentives and commissions. Due to the urgency of our requirement qualified applicants were advised to hand carry their resume at:

2/F/2nd Floor ABM Building
Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City (near St. Peter Parish Church)
blisters@pacific.net.ph
Previous Applicants Need Not Apply

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Pls. Apply Personally At:
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Libis, Q.C.

on C-8 between Shupines & Morato
Tel. 6370.680

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education (DepEd)
SECONDARY EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (SEDIP)
National Project Management Office (NPMAO)
5th Floor, Bonifacio Building, DepEd Complex, Marikina Ave., Pasig City
Telephone Nos. 835-9822, 831-0673, Telefax No. 835-9828

The Secondary Education Development and Improvement Project (SEDIP) and the Bureau of Secondary Education of the Department of Education requires qualified applicants to fill-up the vacant **Engineer III** but contractual position with the following qualifications:

- a professional civil engineer
- with employment experience in the government and private sector
- with experience in the implementation of foreign-funded projects;
- with knowledge in the use of computer
- with appropriate related trainings, and
- willing to work on extended period

Applicants may send their application with CV and recent photograph not later than October 11, 2004 to:

Ms. Dolores H. dela Cruz
Administrative II
Room 501, 5th Floor Bonifacio Building
DepEd Complex, Marikina Avenue
Pasig City

Offices in Manila, Boracay
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3 OUTBOUND EXPERIENCE PRE. MNL

REQUIRE:
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Send your resumé and 2x2 picture to:

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Email: MakatiJobs@west.com

Previous applicants for the past six months may reapply.



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We are a manufacturer of a very popular brand of ice cream. We are looking for dealers and distributors for certain sales territories or marketing zones in Metro Manila, provincial Luzon, and certain areas in Visayas and Mindanao. Dealerships can be extremely profitable for those who can get attractive locations and can give supervision of retail outlets in the sales territories. A dealer can make P6K (or more!) a month on a capital investment of P40K per outlet with a modest sales volume per month. To be selected, you have to apply for dealership(s) in the available sales territories of your choice by sending a letter of intent and a short resumé with 2 x 2 picture to email mikhail0268@yahoo.com or fax numbers 817-9665 or 848-1179. Address to: ICE CREAM MANUFACTURER

Parties who are interested to be dealers must possess the following qualifications: (1) Relevant business experience in trading and distribution of consumer products. If no relevant business background, the dealer applicant must justify why he/she thinks is capable of handling an area dealership e.g. familiarity of locality or existing contacts with popular retail outlets in the area; (2) Initial capital of P20K-P40K per retail outlet for acquisition of freezer(s); (3) Favorable character references and bank checkings; and (4) In areas outside of Metro Manila, access to but not ownership of cold storage facility may be necessary. If you are interested and believe you can meet our requirements, send your Letter of Intent now with the required information and specific market areas of interest (except major malls as they are already taken). We will respond to you if the territories are still available and we believe that you have the qualifications to meet our dealership criteria.

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Email: loria@vmsa.com

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Accounting Assistant
-female, 1-2 years work experience, proficient in AR & AP, maintaining input/output issues
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Is in immediate need of top caliber individuals:

MERCHANDISE DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

- Preferably male; between 25-35 years old
- Graduate of a four (4) year business related course
- Must be an accomplished Sales Person
- Must have experience in dealing with different retail outlets all over the Philippines particularly Visayas and Mindanao and key cities of Luzon
- Must be fluent in English, Filipino and knowledge of Visayan dialect will be an advantage
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality; impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate

HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICER

- Female, Between 25-30 years old
- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or Human Resource Management
- With at least two (2) years experience in all facets of Human Resource Management
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must have strong leadership qualities, organizational and interpersonal skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality and can deal well with all levels in the organization
- Must be people-oriented, analytical, and highly motivated
- Must be computer literate

BOUTIQUE MANAGERS/SALES SUPERVISORS

- Female, at least 5'2 in height
- Between 25-35 years old
- Graduate of a four (4) year course
- Preferably with work experience in a fashion retail establishment
- Must possess a pleasing and aggressive personality
- Must be very good in customer relations
- Must be willing to work on weekends and holidays
- Must be proficient in both oral and written communications
- Must be computer literate

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO E-MAIL OR SEND IMMEDIATELY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUME, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2X2 PHOTO TO:

STORES SPECIALISTS, INC.

Human Resources Management Division
(c/o Executive Administration)
Ground Floor Midland Buendia Bldg.
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
E-mail address: embaysa@rgoc.com.ph

(We will reply to qualified applicants only)

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

LOGISTICS COORDINATOR

- Male, at least 25 years old
- College graduate
- 1-2 years experience in port documents
- Knows how to drive 2 wheel & 4 wheel vehicles
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- Honest and trustworthy; can work independently

ACCOUNTANT

- Male or Female, at least 25 years old
 - Graduate of BS Accountancy preferably CPA or CMA
 - 2-3 years experience in the whole accounting cycle, preferably computerized accounting system
 - Computer literate and systematic
 - Detailed and results-oriented; willing to work overtime & can withstand pressure
- Interested parties may email or personally submit their resumé/biodata with 2x2 picture, NBI clearance, transcript of academic records to:

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New Orange & Blue Bldg. (in front of Pasig General Hospital)
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Not over 35 years of age, an accounting major with excellent scholastic credentials; at least 4 years experience in handling and supervising complete accounting records, entries and preparation of corporate financial statements; must be thoroughly familiar with accounting software and electronic accounting technology. Must be able to -

- Organize the work and functions of his/her department and be adept in cost analysis
- Coordinate with his/her peers and form part of the team.
- Clearly express himself/herself in English when communicating with Management.

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This key position reports directly to the Marketing Manager and must be able to -

- Deal with managerial officials of client firms for manpower requirements of their organization
- Successfully promote our services as shown by proven track record of accomplishments in previous jobs in marketing, sales experience in marketing for a manpower company is an advantage
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Starting rate is competitive, depending on qualifications. Send complete resumé with latest 2x2 photo or apply in person at:



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- Male, 3-5 years experience in porphyry copper exploration, trustworthy and hardworking

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- Male, 21-25 years old, graduate of BS Accountancy, computer literate, with or without experience, trustworthy and industrious, willing to be assigned in the province.

OFFICE SECRETARY

- Female, 18-21 years old, Computer Secretarial graduate, with pleasing personality.

Apply personally with your transcript and resumé at:

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Qualified applicants will receive competitive salary plus unlimited commission

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Engineering graduate, Mechanical Eng'g is an advantage
21 - 25 years old; Computer literate
Experience is an advantage; Must know how to drive

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Female, 21 - 25 years old
College graduate; Computer literate
With pleasing personality, customer oriented

Apply in person with resumé & 2x2 photo
Mon. - Fri. at

1174 EDSA, BALINTAWAK, Q.C.
Tel. # 330-5331 look for Ms. Fema

CEO of HR consulting firm shares turnaround secrets

By Candy G. Villanueva
Contributor

HR FOCUS

NOEL de Leon's work principle is simple, if you don't like the way things are done, change it! This is the way he directed his life and managed a company to a flourishing business that takes good care of its people. As President and CEO of Mercer Human Resource Consulting, De Leon was instrumental in bringing the company to where it is now.

Mercer Human Resource Consulting is an employee benefits, remuneration and human resources consulting firm with offices in 40 countries. With over 13,500 employees worldwide, Mercer first took form in Canada in 1948. The succeeding years saw Mercer extend its consulting business to the farthest reaches of the globe. In 1998, Mercer made its presence felt in Asia and in the Philippines. Under De Leon's steadfast leadership, Mercer, its people and its clients are reaping the rewards of the company's continuous growth and profitability.

Turnaround job

Aside from heading the Philippine office, De Leon is also responsible for Mercer's Performance and Rewards practice. More than 20 years of experience in the Human Resources Management field prepared this leader for the huge task of turning a company around. Before he assumed his present post in Mercer, Corporate Resources Group, a failing company, was presented to him as a challenge. "I was challenged by the job to turn around a company that was not per-

forming well for a long time," says De Leon. It took him almost two years to rebuild the company but the experience steered him to a different passion. Also an Information Technology professional, HR was not his first choice. "I did not choose HR Consulting as my profession. It came in the form of a 'turnaround' job. After turning around the company in two years time, I learned to love the HR consulting job."

De Leon holds a BS degree in Engineering and earned a Masters in Business Administration from the Asian Institute of Management. He is presently a candidate for a doctorate degree in Organizational Development. With an extensive educational background, De Leon is an expert on strategic management in human resources. He has consulted with local and multinational organizations in the Philippines and the Asia Pacific Region.

Leadership principles

So how does one rehabilitate and revive a dying organization? De Leon discloses that aside from possessing the right competencies, he also had to bring out the entrepreneur in him. "I have always been an entrepreneur. I believe that this mindset is a requirement for success in whatever career path you are in."

A former boss once told De Leon that he is good at execution and that he deliv-

ers. And deliver he did. In two years, he was able to bring Corporate Resources Group to its place of growth and profitability. Passion was also part of the equation in bringing the company to success. He applies the same attitude in steering Mercer to a similar direction. He claims he loves every aspect of his job. "If I don't love any portion of the job, I will change it. If I can't change it, I will leave. If you love your job, your effectiveness and efficiency is doubled. If you love your job, compensation is just the gravy."

Performance driven

De Leon does not take full credit for the Mercer's success. He says he also has the right team that supported him. And although he demands a lot from his people, he claims he rewards equally. "I gave stretched (realistic though) targets but I reward people generously for achieving them," he confesses. De Leon adds that he ensures that the team is aware that they belong to a high performance team and a successful, performance driven organization. This way he knows the employees are motivated.

For him knowing one's value in an organization is just as encouraging as incentives and material returns. The result: "performance-driven, ethical and responsible employees." Mercer, according to De Leon, provides value to clients and takes care of its employees.

In forming the right team, De Leon gave value on attitude over competencies. He chooses his people on their ability to convert themselves into "better products." Those interested in being under De Leon's wing would do well to "learn more than



DELEON

NUDY ESPERAS

others, know more than others, look better than others, speak well than others—you must be better than the average."

Sharpening the saw

An expert in the field of Human Resources, De Leon also shares his knowledge through numerous articles he has written on the field. He is also an excellent speaker and teacher and has been rated as "dynamic and inspiring" in several of the seminars and conferences he has conducted.

To grow the company, De Leon believes that he himself as an individual must constantly develop and improve. "If we just walk, the runners will overtake us." He continuously "sharpens the saw" by non-stop learning. He is presently a candidate for a Ph.D. degree and is a part-time MBA profes-

sor. He also reads ravenously, pours over the Internet and intranet, regularly attends seminars and relies on the guidance of a mentor. Mercer's top guy likens the whole process to exercising the body. "Just like how I take care of my body—I exercise regularly."

Aside from physical and mental development, De Leon also nurtures spiritual growth. Above family and

work, comes God. In fact, if he wasn't into HR, he would still be serving other people to glorify his creator. "I would be managing a very profitable or successful business while serving in a Catholic Christian community and doing part-time teaching in the graduate school and serving as a director of a non-government organization or a foundation helping our less fortunate brothers and sisters."

Looking for your dream job?

JOIN "My Trabaho," a public service program to help people at work and jobseekers find their dream jobs.

Send a letter describing yourself, your strengths and weaknesses, and why you deserve to be selected as a beneficiary of this program, together with a biodata and one 1X1 photo through postal mail to "My Trabaho at Job Market," Philippine Daily Inquirer Bldg., Chino Roces Ave. corner Yague and Mascarido Sts., Makati City. Or e-mail to peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph. You can also handcarry your letter and biodata to any of Inquirer's Classified Ads branch offices in Metro Manila.

On Dec. 22, the next batch (30 letters per batch) will be picked (by drawing at random the letters). These 30 letter senders

will be invited to attend a two-day Career Planning Workshop for free to be conducted by Career Systems, Inc. From these 30 letter senders, 10 will be selected by career mentors to be given the following assistance: a) Weekly career coaching sessions good for two months by a trained and qualified career mentor; b) Two outfits suitable to the targeted job of the applicant; c) A makeover by a reputable grooming salon to prepare him or her for his or her first job interview; d) Free attendance in a two-day Resume Preparation/Interview Seminar; e) Cash of P5,000 to be used in going to interviews, making letters of application and resumes, photos and other expenses that will be incurred in their job hunt for two months. For more information, call (632) 897-8808 local 237.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN

A foreign assistance organization has an immediate need for an ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN. The incumbent will be responsible for a range of professional accounting duties in the processing, analyzing and reconciling accounting transactions. He/She will be responsible for doing financial accounting and reports. In relation to this, the incumbent will participate and coordinate with the concerned offices in the organization for financial policy matters and implementation plans and activities. Completion of college degree in accounting or bookkeeping is required. From 3 to 4 years of progressively responsible experience in accounts maintenance, bookkeeping or closely-related accounting technician work with at least 2 years of international accounting/bookkeeping work experience preferably from an international or foreign donor organization preferred. He/She must have the ability to comprehend and to properly apply to the accounting process the various and detailed technical program regulations, terms and conditions. A good command of both written and spoken English is essential. The ability to effectively use MS Excel and MS Word is required.

Competitive salary (including mid-year and year-end bonuses), health/life insurance, supplementary retirement plan are offered.

Application letter with 2x2 photo and comprehensive resume must be received no later than Friday, October 15, 2004.

Human Resources Division
P.O. Box EA 423
1000 Ermita, Manila



This is a call
from nature....

We are in urgent need of
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With the following qualifications:

Graduate of Economics, Business Administration, Marketing or related course; With track record on resource; mobilization/fund generation; With experience on business development and events management; Excellent presentation and working ability; Proficient in oral and written communication; Computer literate; Very good people skills; With at least 2 years managerial experience

interested?

submit resume with 2X2 picture to
The HR Director, ABS-CBN Foundation, Inc.,
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October 20, 2004



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Sunday PEOPLE at WORK

Editor Paul O. Marcelo
Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

Text on your feedbacks inspires our weekly columns. Send to 2307 (Globe) or 283 (Sunday)

'I feel like a born loser'

By Ernie O. Cecilia

I GRADUATED with a degree in Foreign Service and worked as a room attendant in a hotel on a temporary basis. After five months of work, the hotel made me sign another contract for another five months. I refused to renew my contract because I wanted a more challenging job. I then applied with five call centers but was not hired. I feel that I will never get hired.

Since then, I expect the worst and have totally lost my self-confidence. Please help me regain my self-confidence and have a great career.

Ordinary Guy

I am writing this column from Italy, where unemployment is low. In my two weeks here, I have met many ordinary people doing ordinary things and getting by in their careers. The standard of living here is high and some people take on many jobs in order to survive. I guess we don't have to be extraordinary to succeed in our careers.

Maybe, you are not that ordinary—you have successfully completed your college education and you had a job once. You even dream of having a great career, something that most "ordinary" people don't do.

Perhaps, I can share with you a few ordinary tips on how to have a great career, but only you can regain your self-confidence to achieve that dream career. Much of what I will tell you now you might have already heard or read before. Perhaps, you don't need extraordinary advice—what you might need is an enormous amount of ability, will power and confidence to achieve your dream.

Ability to get the job

Let's first talk of ability. The people who usually get a job are not necessarily the people who know best how to do the job. They are usually the people who know best how to get a job. (I have said this before in this column.) In school, you might have learned "foreign service," but I might venture saying that perhaps you were never really taught how to get a job that requires what you learned. That's ordinary!

Getting a job and doing a job are two different skills that you must have. With your education and experience, perhaps you have what it takes to do a particular job. However, to be able to get a job, you also need the ability or skill to get a job.

Getting a job is very competitive nowadays, especially

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in a labor surplus economy like the Philippines. To have an edge in getting a job, you must be able to have the following skills:

- Knowing the competencies—skills, inclinations, interests, likes, abilities, etc.—that will make you succeed in a particular job
- Knowing where to find the jobs that suit you and where you will likely succeed
- Knowing how to get noticed by the companies that can provide your dream career
- Convincing the company that you are who they are looking for—and not the hundreds of others looking for the same job—by passing the battery of tests and series of interviews

Learning the skills

These abilities are not innate—you can learn them. You must learn these abilities and skills if you want to have a great career. Education is very important. People in school now must never take their education for granted. Good performance in school is often seen as an indicator of good performance at work. But education is not just about schooling. In fact, I have always suggested that in order to succeed in life, one must "never let schooling interfere with one's education."

Aside from having the right abilities—to get a job and to do the job—you must have the willpower to decide what is good for you. Many people miss getting their dream jobs because they either "take the first bus that comes along" or take so much time to decide what they really want in life. There must be a balance between rushing into a job that you might later dislike and not making a decision at all when a job awaits you. Have a sense of purpose, know what you want in life, look at possibilities, choose where you want to be, and pursue that dream job.

It is all right to experiment on different jobs. Many people are never sure about what they want when they start their careers. At least, you know that you don't want to be a room boy again. Then, try other jobs—but you must be practical in choosing your next jobs. With your educa-



ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

tion in Foreign Service and your experience as a room boy, you can't expect to be a hotel manager right away. So, what jobs can you reasonably aspire for? (Perhaps, you can check out a chapter on that in my book "How to Get a Job," which is available in popular book stores in Metro Manila.)

Self-confidence

The next "competence" (if you can call it that) is very important—confidence. This is a state of mind and can be learned, too. Usually, confidence is developed through a series of positive experiences. A person who succeeds in a particular task usually develops the confidence to do the same or similar task with ease. This does not, however, mean that you can't have confidence when you are doing something for the first time. Many first-timers (in most anything they do) succeed because they believe they can. Having the right skills can also enhance confidence. But a lot of times, one can have confidence by simply believing in oneself. As I often say, "if you think you are beaten, you are."

Preparation can help boost confidence. When applying for a job, you must prepare—know what the job is about, know what skills are required, find a match between the job and what you can offer, know what tests are usually given, find out who will

interview you and what questions are usually asked, prepare ready answers to some commonly asked questions, rehearse your responses, etc. When you know that you have not done anything to prepare for a job interview, you know that your confidence level might be low. But, when you have prepared and are ready to take any test or meet the interviewer, you will develop the confidence required to make a good impression.

Forget that you failed five times in your application with call centers. Maybe, that's not the career that's ideal for you. When you apply for another job, be sure that you have the abilities to do the job and to get the job, the willpower to compete for the job, and the confidence that you will get that job. How? You will know it because you will be oozing with confidence, when you go to meet your employer for the first time. If, on the other hand, you feel that you won't make it and therefore you need not make a good impression, you will be so right—you won't get the job.

(Mr. Cecilia is the president and CEO of EC Business Solutions and Career Center, a business and human resource consulting firm. He was the president of the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines in 1999. He has written career books available at popular book stores. He can be reached at ec4u@edsamail.com.ph.)

How do you deal with a price grinder?

DEAR WW: I've got a bunch of customers who constantly beat me up on price. I like to save money too, but these guys are killing me! How can you get someone to focus more on the value you provide and less on how much you charge?

More Value

Remember "rope a dope?" It was Muhammad Ali's strategy for his fight with George Foreman in Zaire. Figuring that eventually George would punch himself out, Ali spent most of the fight doing his impersonation of a punching bag. Sure enough, by fight's end, George's tank was empty and Ali prevailed.

There is a lesson in "rope a dope" for anyone trying to sell to a "price grinder." Sometimes, you just have to climb in the ring and accept some punishment while you try to outlast him. But that doesn't mean you never punch back. Below are some "strategic punches" you can use while waiting for him to wear out. For more, check out Josh Gordon's book, "Selling 2.0" (Berkeley, 2000).

Do you know what your competitors charge? Continually monitor the prices, terms and service packages of your competitors. Give your customer an in-depth comparison of how your prices compare—while clearly highlighting your benefits.

Do you show them how you'll save them money over time? A cheaper price doesn't look so good when the customer has to ship the product cross-country every time it needs repair. Show her how you'll save her money over the long haul with more convenient locations, a bigger product line, specialized knowledge, just-in-time deliveries and any other bennies you can provide.

Do you give them proof? There's nothing like a testimonial—especially if it's got numbers attached. Ask happy customers for permission to use them as examples. If you can't name specific companies, describe past customers' successes with your product anonymously, while explaining that you need to protect their identities. Make these "case studies" specific, and number-filled. Convince them with the data of a scientific journal rather than the glitz of an ad.

Do you customize your presentation to their needs? Instead of giving a generic pitch, ask a few targeted questions, then, give the customer a spreadsheet showing exactly what your product will do for him over time. He'll be better persuaded—and will have an easier time selling others.

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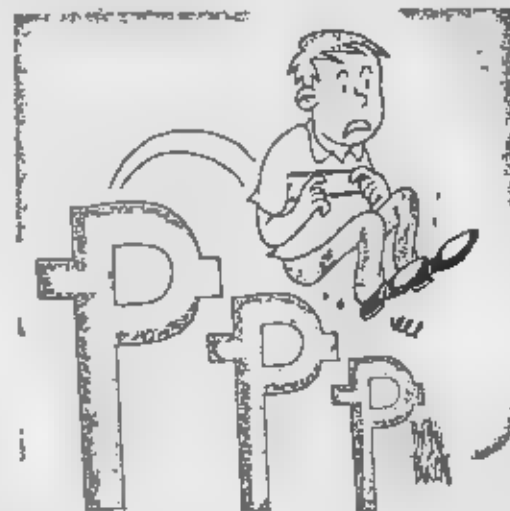


ILLUSTRATION BY DOMINIO BUCCAT

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Thanking your problems

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

AT WORK, where you have to deal with all sorts of people, you learn to be thankful not only for the usual things, or for extraordinary favors coming your way, but also for your problems. Some people, in fact, do not want to call problems "problems" but "situations" or "challenges." But whatever you choose to call them, problematic situations at the workplace are some of the best opportunities to take one's professionalism to the next level, especially for decision-makers or the highly-placed.

Managers and decision-makers are supposedly bright or smart people—or in any case brighter and smarter than (most of) their subordinates. In fact, the general perception is that their subordinates need them more than the other way around, partly because it's so common to see bosses who act as though they don't need anyone. That's understandable, because in an organization, the higher you are, the more indispensable you become: there's only one president where there may be one hundred typists.

The best bosses to work with are those who know how to be thankful for their "people problems"—the slow assistant, the stubborn driver, the scatterbrained clerk, and others. He is thankful for the presence of "difficult" people in the workplace because from dealing with them he learns to be patient, tolerant, humble, thus he is purged of his own conceit, arrogance, and pride. By appreciating the gifts he has been given, and accepting others wholeheartedly despite their limitations—he is healed and purified, ready to radiate the peace of Christ. Such is the kind of boss who makes the biggest difference in the workplace because they first make the biggest difference in their coworkers' hearts. (E-mail the author at teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)

REFLECTIONS
FOR THE
WORKING SOUL

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Jesus said in reply, "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine? Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?"

Say, 'Thank You'

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

IN A SCHOOL canteen, I saw signboards that read "Say 'thank you'" posted where the student-buyers could see them as they pay for their items. I thought that it was an ingenious way of imprinting in the minds of children and youth a sense of gratitude. After all, spoken words of thankfulness seem seldom heard nowadays from not only the young people but from among the adults as well. Even in Jesus' time, as told in today's Gospel, only one out of the ten lepers He cured came back to thank Him and God.

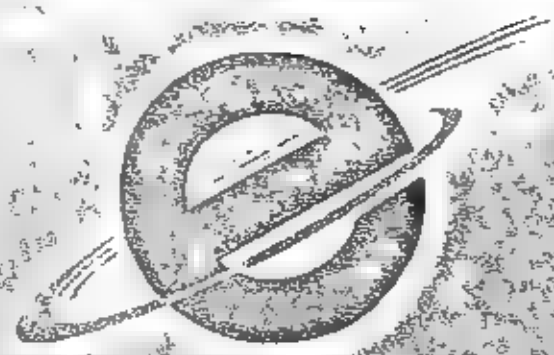
In the workplace and in business, there seems to be also very few who say "thank you" that comes "from the bottom of one's heart"—a sincere appreciation coming from the core of the person's being. The words of thanks that we might commonly hear would most likely be ritualistic and formal, if not scripted, like the "thank you sir, thank you ma'am" said almost in chorus by waiters in some restaurants to their customers.

For a more pleasant workplace atmosphere, both management and workers need not wait for extraordinary occasions or celebrations to announce publicly or formally bestow plaques to express appreciation and gratitude for one another in the work community.

Mutual expressions of gratefulness make the workplace light and easy. The good thing about saying "thank you" (even for the smallest task accomplished) doesn't cost anyone a single centavo and yet it is an investment towards a profitable and productive future for the workplace. One who says "thank you" while doing his work with all his energy and love says "thank you" as well to the God of life and love. (E-mail the author at mfvg@skyinet.net)



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By Lourd Ernest De Veyra
Photographs by Ernie U. Samiento

HEL-LER."

It's the last name of the author of one of the most flip-out novels of the 20th century. It's also an expression spreading around like some contagious airborne virus these days, in the same way most new phrases take on strange lives of their own. It's supposed to be another variation of "hello,"

supposedly of the Australian persuasion. If you haven't heard it yet, watch out—it's just a matter of time. And people are tracing its origins to 19-year-old up-and-coming actress, TV host and VJ hya Villania. Hel-LER.

Makeup by
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Hair by Chris P. Alon
of Lucy Britanico and
F. Salon
hya's top by
Karin Karin
hya's jeans by Jig

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Iya

"I don't really know," she shakes her head. "That's just the way I say 'hello.' You know, I don't even hear the 'er.' People come up to me and say 'hel-ler.' Well, I don't like to think about it. I saw it coming. Anyway, I love that word."

Iya speaks with an unapologetic Aussie accent and manages to make vowel endings sound like 'er' or even 'ewr.' But she's not about to drop any of that anytime soon. "Everyone's been trying to tell me to lose the accent. I'm actually proud of it. It's something I don't want to lose," she beams. "It's an asset. People get a-liv."

Iya Villania is just the latest in a string of impossibly good-looking Filipino-Australians in show business, among them Marc Nelson, Brad Turvey and Ann Curtis. She's just been over a year in the biz, but she's already been in a lot of gigs: a co-hosting stint on "ASAP Fanatic," VJ duties for Myx, and cast member of the teen drama series "Seasons of Love." She's also logged some significant screen time for Gil Portes's "Beautiful Life," her screen debut that demanded copious amounts of tear-shedding as the pregnant girlfriend of a bombing victim. (She also jokingly confessed to being terminally terrified of Portes.) Right now, she's playing a barrio lass in the Joel Lamangan-directed "Ashite Masu," a Ricky Lee-penned historical drama set during the Japanese occupation and an entry to the holiday season's Manila Film Fest.

Fun and funky

Heavy stuff for a teenager who considers herself "quite silly." "Yeah, I hate crying scenes," she says. "Sometimes I would read a script, and there's a part where I'd have to cry, and another part where I'd have to cry again. Oh, no." She makes the last word sound charmingly like "neur."

Understandably, Iya is more comfortable with the "fun, funky, sporty, tough, feminine" image that she exudes on television. "That's just the way I am. I like to play around. I like to make people laugh and smile," she says. It was, in fact, this perky appeal that she projected on her very first TV appearance as the host of a show entirely devoted to videogames—making the doe-eyed young lady the object of desire of an entire generation of geeky adolescents.

She's also aware that she's standing on shaky ground, which local show biz really is. "It's fun, but it's a dangerous business, really. There are new people constantly coming in. A lot of people in show biz my age make the mistake of thinking that it's gonna be here forever, that they can live off show biz for the rest of their lives. Some of them stop pursuing their education." Conscious of

the fleeting character of a career in entertainment, Iya is studying Psychology at De La Salle University. She's also taking weekly computer lessons at the Asian Center for Science and Technology, or ACSAT. Asked about her choice of course, she chuckles: "I just wanted to avoid math."

Different reactions

Being in school is a good thing, says Iya, "because it keeps your feet on the ground, keeps you normal. I understand how easy it is to lose touch with what's real when you're in show biz. It's okay, even if my classmates make me *tukso* (tease me). Whenever we have to borrow something from another classroom, they'd make me knock and say: 'Hi, can we please borrow the television?'"

She is also keeping her options open, Iya adds. "I'm not even sure I want to be an actress," she says. "I really came here to be a singer, but the TV appearances came first so I just explored the territory to try to see what's best for me."

Her accent isn't something she's conscious of, she says. "It's the people around me who make me conscious. And I get conflicting reactions. There are some who'd say that *Ang galing-galing mo na mang mag-Tagalog* (you speak Tagalog really well). There are others who'd laugh," says Iya. She adds: "Sometimes I'd get tips on how to deliver a certain dialogue. Of course, I do get conscious when I'm around veteran actors." She recalls a most pleasant experience working with seasoned actors in "Beautiful Life." "Dina Bonnevie, Ricky Davao, and Tita Gloria Romero were so nice—they helped me out when I was having trouble with some scenes."

Iya, however, doesn't consider herself a star yet, despite the fact that there are already online tributes and fan listings devoted to her. "There's so much competition, so many people better than me. I'm not the best. I'd like to think I'm still trying. Like, I'm still doing all those VTRs."



Iya (real name: Raelene Elaine) was born and raised in Sydney, Australia, the youngest of three sisters. As a tomboyish girl, she loved playing "touch rugby," a less physically violent variation of the rough sport. "You just tag players instead of tackling them," she explains. "But when unsupervised, we tend to tackle each other really hard."

Opening act

Iya was only 13 when she was first spotted by talent manager Arnold Vegafria in a show co-produced by her mother. As Geneva Cruz's opening act, she sang Donna Summer's "Last Dance." "He told me to get in touch with him if ever I decide to go to the Philippines and become a singer," she remembers.

Two years ago, she did just that. But things weren't as easy at first. She did a frightening amount of VTR tests, with not-so-encouraging results. "I wasn't getting hired, and it got to a point when I took the rejections personally. 'What's wrong with me?' I got sick of going to VTRs," Iya also recalls performing in small shows and no one in the audience would applaud. "They don't know me yet, kasi." But the projects came one by one, including one glamorous supermarket print ad that required Iya to pose for the camera while holding two pigs on a leash.

Now she has a pretty hectic schedule, balancing her school work with show biz duties. And she's not about to give up her original agenda of becoming a recording artist ("Singing is really my first love"). In fact, she's currently working on her debut album under the newly established recording arm of the Regal Entertainment empire, of which she has the distinction of being the first signed talent. "The songs are something like light and slow R&B—no diva belting for me," she explains.

But with the sort of projects coming her way, she admits that the singing aspect may encounter a bit of rough sailing. "Especially now, we're shooting a movie, and I get very little sleep. I'm always *paos* (hoarse)." Right now, she's bombarding her eardrums with Maroon 5, after finishing with Frenkel. "I have this habit of listening to something over and over again until I get sick of it," she giggles.

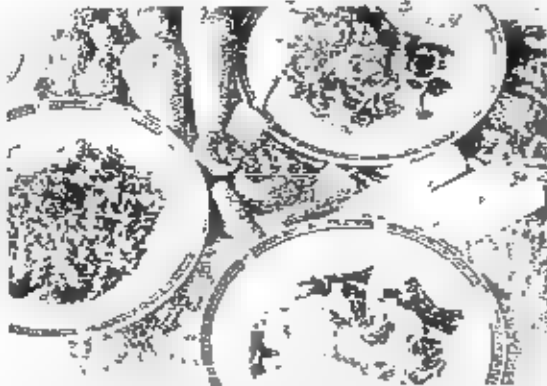
It's still two months away, but Iya's already excited to spend Christmas in Australia. It's a time for her to do some catching up with friends and relatives. And when she comes back, expect snappier, more convincing rounds of "hel-ler."

Up next: "Hel-ler" the teen series? 

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By Joe D' Mango



Should I Try to Win Her Back or Just Let Go?

I used an imaginary girlfriend to make Trish agree to my suggestion for us to cool off. Two months later, she told me she has a new boyfriend. How do I convince her to go back to me?

Dear Joe,

Just call me Dante. I'm 23 and a computer programmer at a government office. Trish and I have been together for over three years. Our first year was challenging because I was so demanding and possessive. But we survived that and I was able to change my attitude. The following year, the tables were turned and she became immature and selfish. It didn't bother me and it actually made me stronger. She was there during all the significant events in my life. We became so intimate, all that remained for us was to get married. Even our families were so happy for us and considered us a perfect couple.

But last year, things really became difficult. We began to argue over even the littlest things, to the point that we were digging up past transgressions. We were hurting each other not only through words but also physically. I made myself busy just to forget the

pain but that made Trish more difficult.

I finally decided that we needed space to think things over. She didn't give up on me and said that we didn't need time apart from each other. But then I made a stupid mistake. I used an imaginary girlfriend to make her agree to my initial suggestion. At the same time, I assured Trish that I still loved her, that I would go back to her someday.

We had no communication for two months, and then she told me that she already had a new boyfriend who saved her from her depression. It exploded in my face like a bomb, Joe. I discovered that she was the source of my happiness. Up to now, I keep trying to convince her to come back to me, telling her that I will wait for her forever. Please tell me what I should do. Should I continue to try and win her back or just let go?

Sincerely yours,
Dante


Dear Dante,

It is true that we only realize how important a person is when she's gone. There are many moments in a relationship when we are driven to compete with our partners. Family, work and friends usually become the center of sensitive jealousy issues. We start to argue about how much time is spent on our relationships. We begin to selfishly demand the time that we sometimes have so little of.

Physical presence is very important in a relationship but in this very demanding and challenging world, it pays to be understanding and flexible with our demands. Dante, you can spend the whole day with someone but be emotionally away from her, in the same way that you can spend just a few minutes with that person and yet make her feel so loved and important. The truth is, it is not really a question of how much time we spend with the people we love but the quality of time that we spend with

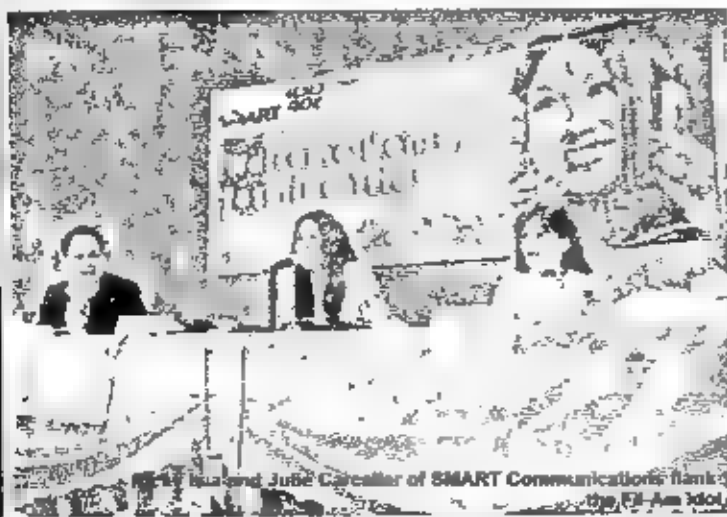
them.

When we are challenged in our relationship, we are always tempted to run away just to prove our point, satisfy our ego and hurt the people who love us. You've hurt Trish enough for her to consider seeking shelter in someone else's arms. Competition and jealousy are poisons that kill a relationship, and sometimes we find out how devastating they are only when it is too late.

If she truly doesn't love you anymore then maybe it wouldn't do you much good to push yourself too hard. You would probably be just annoying her and make her hate you more. Dante, just remember that no matter how sincere our intentions are, it is how we show them that make people react. It is only when we try to be transparent in our relationships that people learn to understand why we act the way we do and begin to accept us for just being ourselves. 

Home is Where the Heart Is

SMART Welcomes Jasmine Trias to the Philippines



"They're everywhere! My face is everywhere!" she exclaimed as she saw the streamers lined up from the airport to the Mandarin Oriental in Makati. Surprised, shocked, and overwhelmed might be some of the words that came to Jasmine Trias' mind as she finally set foot on Philippine soil. The bubbly 17-year old had never even traveled outside the United States until this year, and here she was, thousands of miles away, in a land her parents, grandparents, and ancestors had called home. After winning the hearts of thousands in the popular "American Idol" talent search, Jasmine caught the attention of people in our corner of the world when we found out she was, in fact, a Filipino.

It seemed but natural then that Jasmine was chosen as the new endorser of SMART IDD. With a message that emphasizes bringing families together despite being countries apart, Jasmine's SMART IDD commercial is a resonate with both Jasmine and her parents. SMART IDD brings your loved ones home as if they were right beside you thanks to phone calls at only 40c a minute. SMART International Text keeps you in touch with them, even if it's only through text.

Riding the "Jas-mobile" (as the coaster with Jasmine's likeness plastered all over it was dubbed), Jasmine was wide-eyed as she saw the Philippines for the first time. "Wow, look at the jeepneys!" she said aloud. Much like many Filipinos who grew up abroad and who visit our homeland for the first time, Jasmine tried to take in the sights and sounds of Manila all at once. The media that gathered while waiting for her arrival all sought a piece of this Filipina who made good in "the land of milk and honey", yet Jasmine, for all her singing talent, is really just a regular teenager.

Clearly not used to all the love thrown her way, Jasmine bravely faced the Filipino media for the first time. Given flowers care of D' Flower Facade of Mr. Francis Hen, Jr., Jasmine

seemed very down-to-earth and quite relaxed with the media crush, undoubtedly a sign of being raised well by parents Rudy and Nora. Some insight into Jasmine's personality was gained from the press conference. It turns out that she can't live without her SMART cellphone, her iPod, and her family. Other than her family, she uses her cellphone to stay in contact with her friends who are now in college. She marveled at the fact that her image could now be downloaded onto a cellphone, and she proudly displayed that phone for all to see. You too can bring Jasmine to your SMART cellphone, just key in JASMINE and send to 209.

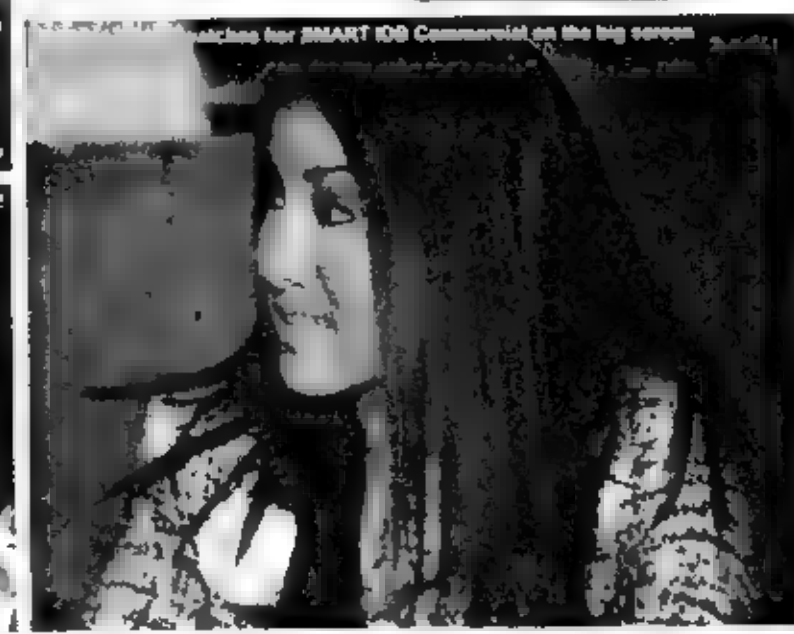
The dream has finally come true for Jasmine's many fans across the country. Jasmine Trias has indeed come home. Even as anticipation for her October 16 concert builds to a crescendo, SMART IDD is proud to have been one of the facilitators for this long-awaited homecoming.

SMARTIDD

It's not just about making an IDD call...



It's about bringing Pinoy's abroad closer to home.



Movers and Shakers

By Rina Jimenez David

Peace is Her Life's Work

As a former member
of civil society,
Presidential Adviser
on the Peace Process
Ging Deles found
that she has to forge
new alliances and
work with old
enemies, or forever
hold her peace



RUDY ESPERAS

FOR a "Peace Month," September didn't quite start out on a peaceful note. There was the bloody hostage-taking of schoolchildren in Beslan, the car bomb outside the Australian Embassy in Jakarta, and the anniversary of martial law, which ironically enough fell on Sept. 21, World Peace Day. The day not only brought back memories of those dark years but also ignited street protests and vigils.

But maybe all these chilling reminders of continuing violence also brought home the importance of building peace and bringing an end to conflict.

In this country, the work of peace-building falls on the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP), headed by Teresita "Ging" Quintos Deles.

Full circle

She has come "full circle," says this former executive director of the Gaston Z. Ortigas Peace Institute and Secretary-General of the NGO National Peace Conference. Ging thus brings decades of peace-building work to her post as she oversees negotiations for a settlement of armed conflicts and for addressing the basic causes of these uprisings.

Ging, who before her appointment to the OPAPP headed the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), oversees the peace process for the government side, which means monitoring the progress of the peace negotiations with the MILF and the CPP-NDF, and working with other agencies to bring the fruits of development to conflict-ridden areas. Hopefully, this would root out the causes of unrest and armed rebellion.

So does Ging, a familiar face in anti-government rallies during martial law and a stalwart of NGO causes, feel any different now that she's working in government?

"Nothing has really changed," she says. Only the venue of her work has changed and not its nature, adds Ging.

Since graduating with an AB Literature degree from Maryknoll, and teaching English composition and literature to high-school juniors, she has gotten deeper into development work.

From assisting her brother Rolly Quintos in devising an alternative education framework for adults in urban poor communities, Ging found herself coordinating the work of SPES, the social development arm of Ateneo de Manila University, while quietly working with other groups battling the martial law regime. In 1976, Ging and husband Jojo Deles put up the Social Development Index together with other NGO colleagues and Ateneo graduates, seeking to provide college graduates wanting to work with NGOs a support system as well as a "home" for reflections on alternative lifestyles and emerging issues. Index would in time serve as an incubator for various groups and alliances, including the feminist group Pilipina.

Dream women

These days, Ging says she finds her feminism best expressed in her three daughters, all of whom, she says proudly, "have turned out to be the women I dreamed them to be." Paola, 26, worked on micro-credit projects in Digos, Davao del Sur with the Jesuit Volunteer Service after graduation from the Ateneo, after which she proceeded to Fordham for a post-graduate degree in international development. At present, she's on the staff of Sen. Mar Roxas. Leida, 23, holds a management information systems degree from the Ateneo and served on the

staff of former DepEd Secretary DJ de Jesus. She's now connected with Globe Telecoms. Karla, 20, is a computer science senior also at the Ateneo. Husband Jojo, meanwhile, is a consultant on governance in the ARMM with a group called Growth with Equity in Mindanao.

Her older daughters' stint in government, Ging notes, was part of their desire "to give public service a try." Still fresh in her mind, says Ging, was a remark one of their daughters made while Jojo, who was then working with the Canadian International Development Agency, was debating with himself whether to accept an offer to be an undersecretary at the Department of Agrarian Reform during the Ramos administration. Said the girl: "If you can work with the Canadian government, then you should be able to work with our government!"

Though she says she doesn't see herself "staying in government for the rest of my life," Ging says she can leave public service with her head held high, knowing that her life's work has been fulfilled. "I feel I made a difference," she declares. "Now I'm helping determine policy, and have drawn up a peace plan that the entire government bureaucracy has embraced and committed to."

Part of that peace plan is conflict prevention which, although it has received little attention in the media, excites Ging no end.

"The President calls it 'affirmative action' for Muslim Mindanao," she shares. The program includes a P3.7-billion road

network meant to connect the constituent provinces of the ARMM that are separated from each other by predominantly Christian areas. These areas voted against membership in the autonomous region. The road network, says Ging, "will not just mean easier governance in ARMM, but also faster development in these neglected areas."

Wound inside

But while government can spearhead development and reconstruction efforts in the conflict-affected areas, the process of addressing the psycho-social trauma of individuals and the dislocation of communities, what Ging calls "the wounds inside" must be led by civil society, she avers. What she does not say is that government would certainly be in an awkward position should it attempt this all by itself since it was government—through the military—that caused the disturbance in the first place.

"There is very little actual work on the ground," observes Ging, even as she acknowledges the work being done by NGOs, much of which is with children. "We have been talking with civil society groups and religious leaders, such as the Bishops-Ulama Forum, to adopt programs in affected communities." Among the possible programs: public dialogues among Christians, Muslims and Lumads.

The military, she says, is showing more sincerity in its peacekeeping role, as attested to by the participation of no less than the Vice Chief of Staff in the inter-

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Young Achievers

By Amee R. Enriquez

This Promdi Has Set Her Sights on the Stars

SHE is smart, pretty, and works for the National Aeronautics Space Administration, or NASA, the famous American space agency. Magdalena Rosario "Eena" Sta. Maria, 26, says that she gets "weird reactions" when people find out what she does for a living.

Eena's job is no laughing matter. After all, most people can only dream about what she does, or watch it in sci-fi movies. This unassuming Filipina has been working for the SETI (Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence) Institute at the NASA Ames Research Center at Moffett Field, California, for over a year now. AMES Research Center is one of the 10 field installations of NASA, the world leader in space exploration.

Eena works as a research associate, doing Martian atmosphere simulations and modeling. Part of her job description includes the "development of the state-of-the-art evaporation models and the use of those models to investigate potential sites for melting on Mars."

She explains, "Finding liquid water on Mars, or finding out if it is even possible to have liquid water on Mars, is a big deal

Studying the
possibility of life
on Mars is just
part of the job for
Eena Sta. Maria,
a young Filipina
scientist working
for NASA



because that could possibly mean that there was, or is, life on Mars, even just bacteria."

Always a scientist

A typical day at work for Eena means sitting in front of the computer and running models, analyzing model output, sifting through data, or writing papers for publication.

"Oh, and I sometimes go out to enjoy the sun, at least during summer," she adds with a laugh. As a kid, Eena had always wanted to become a scientist, "those mad, messy haired creatures you see in the movies and

TV shows, the one wearing a lab coat and mixing up all those brightly colored liquids come up with something that explodes." To her dismay, when she got to third year high school she found that she hated chemistry. "Thankfully, there was physics the next year and my interest in science returned," Eena recalls.

Combining her love for physics with her love for computers, she took up BS Physics and Computer Engineering at the Ateneo de Manila University. "At that time, computers were the newest big thing and I wanted to be part of it. In hindsight, the physics part was a plus

They Didn't Chicken Out on Love

Eight years after friends warned club dancer Arestina Morados and Frenchman Gerard Papillon against falling in love, the couple has proven that theirs is an enduring relationship, with a chicken-and-egg partnership between them

IT WOULD never work, friends had cautioned Arestina Morados and Frenchman Gerard Papillon when they learned that the two were dating. It didn't help that Morados, who is of Tinggutan ancestry, had to go to Japan as a dancer to help support her four siblings. Gerard met the star dancer at Jools when he went to the girlie bar in Makati for an after-dinner drink "on Sept. 22, 1996," he remembers.

"She's only after your money," Gerard recalls his friends telling him. "Ah, no problem," the then visiting businessman said with a Gallic shrug. "I have no money." At that time, Gerard's construction business in Singapore had gone belly up and he was flat broke. Tina's friends were as concerned. "Does that guy have money?" they asked Tina, who had responded archly, "Well, I have money!" She had just come from Japan, where she made a bundle as a dancer, and now at Jools, she was earning P1,200 a night, "a princely sum in 1996," she points out.

Today, the couple has a six-year-old son, Gael Antony, and a flourishing free-range chicken business in Pidigan, Abra. Gerard still has the construction business for his day job, while Tina manages Pamora Farms—Pamora, after Papillon and Morados. The farm distributes Sasso chickens and eggs to selected dealers and restaurants as well as bottled chicken liver pate, gizzard adobo and confit that Tina has concocted from a family recipe.

Turning things around

Turning things around might as well be the story of her life, says the 28-year-old dusky lass who recalls being teased for her dark skin during her schooldays at the Sra. Quiteria Elementary School in Caloocan. "Negra! Negra!" her classmates would tease her and they were half-right, she says. "Ang lolo ko ang may sala (my grandfather was to blame)," she says good-naturedly. Her grandmother had met her lolo, a black American, during Liberation, when US troops marched into the country during the Second World War.

wanted to get into CE partly because it sounded cool," she explains.

After finishing her double degree in 1999, she worked at the Manila Observatory, also at the Ateneo, doing atmospheric work. It was here where she realized what she wanted to specialize in. "That's where I met the people who showed me the light and taught me that atmospheric physics and science was the way to go. That's why I went into meteorology, which is a subset of atmospheric science," Eena says.

Atmospheric study

Her job at the observatory, in turn, made her part of the regional climate modeling group, which meant the use of computer programs or models that try to copy atmospheric processes for one to learn more about the atmosphere. Part of the job included prediction of rainfall, analyzing and determining trends and patterns, and using this data to verify the results given by computer models.

Because of her educational background and job experience, she became a research assistant at San Jose State University in California, where she earned her MS in Meteorology in 2003. "The most common and annoying reactions that practically all meteorologists get are 'Oh, so you study meteorology?' and 'So you want to be on TV?'" she says. Simply put, me-

teorology is the study of atmosphere and atmospheric phenomena. It is a study of what makes the wind blow, how storms come to be, and how all these interact with human activity. Basic applications of this science include weather prediction, air quality monitoring, as well as monitoring climate change like global warming.

Big break

Her thesis, titled "Dynamic and Thermal Circulations over the Tharsis Region on Mars," was what, in turn, earned her a job at NASA upon the recommendation of her thesis adviser. "Luckily, they had a project lined up which I found interesting so I took it," she says of her big break.

Eena, despite her success, is still a simple *probinsyana* at heart. Growing up in Bacolod City and finishing high school at St. Scholastica's Academy, she was known for her generosity, wit and humility. "For some strange reason, I was given what I thought I could never ever have, a chance to work at NASA," she shares.

When not at work, Eena is like any ordinary young person. At home, she likes to read, play video games and watch DVDs, citing "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" as a personal favorite. She also likes going out with friends, and enjoys physical activities like swimming.

The one thing constant in all

that is the desire to make a difference. The second of four siblings, Eena says her parents have influenced her to make a difference in society. She credits her mom, Marilou, a math teacher at La Salle Greenhills, for nurturing her love for math and physics. "She taught me that we all have a special role to fulfill in this world and that we have the responsibility to find that role because no one else can fill it," she explains.

To serve others

Her dad, Nilo, a businessman, also ingrained in her a longing to serve others. "He was the first to teach me that we live our lives to serve, always to serve. Obviously, he was Atenean," she says.

Even at work, Eena's mentor at the Manila Observatory, Fr. Jett Villarin, S.J., constantly reminded her of her higher purpose in life. "He told me I had to find the intersection of my deepest passion and the world's greatest need," she shares. "Blame it on the Jesuits, but I still dream of coming home and being part of making a change for society's good. I hope this dream will survive reality," she says.

The dream is not an impossible one because Eena's fantastic voyage continues. Next year, she plans to pursue her doctorate at the prestigious Stanford University. Suddenly, Mars doesn't seem so far away.

As star dancer at Jools



Family values: Gerard, Gael and Tina at home

ROMY HOMILADA

the fate of most Japayukis, she says, "by making sure I had a legal contract that was with me all the time, and the number of the Philippine Embassy."

Miss Aruba

Dubbed Miss Aruba by friends, Tina's exotic looks instantly grabbed Gerard's attention. Born in a farm in 1943, Gerard recalls growing up with two younger sisters amid 15,000 free-range chickens and 80 cows and doing chores in a farm south of France. He had wanted to be an architect "but loved football so much," he wound up in vocational school instead. There he learned about the construction business and was soon traveling to Africa, Mauritania, Senegal, Cameroon, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Singapore and finally, Manila to recruit fellow workers for abroad.

Once married with two grown up children, Gerard was drawn to the then 20-year-old Tina "because of her looks and her intelligence." The first time they met, they talked for four hours, he recalls. "She's a very mature person who's also a fast learner. It's incredible how much she can absorb so quickly." She was also very honest and straightforward, he adds. "She told me everything—about dancing in Japan, her family. My other Filipina girlfriends had lied to me."

Adds Tina: "Of course I told him about my work. I tell that to everybody—I have nothing to be ashamed of. I've done nothing wrong."

For her part, Tina found the Frenchman "very kind, understanding and a real gentleman." In fact, when she rejected his offers of a long-term relationship saying she had to take care of her siblings first, Gerard countered, "But I can help you!" That he did, setting up a small chicken farm for Tina's parents in Abra on the land she had acquired with her savings from Japan.

Though supportive of Tina, Gerard has a few words on the dangers of too much family pressure: "I notice that Filipinos tend to press their children to go abroad to support the family and then just live on their remittances. It's given rise to a dole-out mentality," he notes. Being an OFW (overseas Filipino worker) is just fine, adds Tina, recalling her own past. "I only wish that these workers would go home after two years abroad and invest their time and money in their country and their families."

Family and work

Putting value on family ties and hard work was something that both Tina and Gerard learned early on. Recalling his happy childhood in his grandparents' farm, he says of his parents: "They had very strong principles in life. They told me to open my eyes to the world around me and appreciate it."

Armed with such values, the Papillon couple soon had more free-range chickens than they could manage and started giving away poultry to their friends. "And then the compliments began," says Gerard. "Friends would say, 'This is very tasty chicken. This is like the chicken of

my childhood. Where did you get this?'"

Recalls Gerard: "That's when a little light went on in my head. We could have a business!" When the couple found a sizeable piece of land at a very affordable price, Pamora Farms was born. But they couldn't start counting their chickens just yet. "We didn't know a thing about raising free-range chickens," confesses Tina, who adds that they get their chicks from A.P. Inocencio Farms in Teresa, Rizal which breeds Sasso chickens.

Originally bred in France, Sasso chickens are fed with 75 percent cereals, instead of animal-based protein, says Bobby Inocencio, who owns the Teresa farm. "Other chickens are usually fed fishmeal and recycled meat products, which can be a source of salmonella and other bacteria," he adds. Unlike white chicken, free-range fowl are not pumped with hormones and chemicals to make them grow faster or become bigger, says this Sasso breeder. Although the chickens are vaccinated against diseases, antibiotics are used sparingly "to allow them to develop their natural immunity against diseases."

Better choices

Free-range chickens are called such, adds Inocencio, "because they're allowed to graze freely in grassy open air areas so they can eat natural foods like grass and foliage." Such exercise also makes their flesh firmer (some might say tougher), but also healthier "since there is very little fat under their skin." With no growth promotants that allow water retention in chickens, free-range chickens retain much of their size after cooking, while ordinary white chickens can shrink to as much as 65 percent of their weight, says Inocencio. At P180 per kilo, free-range chickens are definitely more expensive, but they're also healthier and more flavorful, he adds.

All these details the Papillon couple had to learn and impart to their 20 farm workers when they started business in 2002. From a monthly capacity of 200 broilers, they can now produce 800, and soon 1,200, ready-to-cook chickens that they supply to Santi's Delicatessen, Terry Selection, Rizal Dairy Farm and other outlets in Baguio and soon, in Cebu. Pamora Farms also joins other French exhibitors at the Agrilink Exhibition on Oct. 14 to 16 at the World Trade Center on Roxas Blvd., to showcase their farm produce.

So far, business has been a family affair, although other investors have joined in to make it a corporation. "Tina's father is a fantastic mechanic," says Gerard. "He's in charge of preventive maintenance and the repair of all farm equipment and machinery." Tina's mom and sister help out in the kitchen, while Tina herself takes charge of the farm. "I get up at 5 a.m. and after breakfast and some exercise, I'm off doing my rounds of the poultry and surrounding plantation and following up the paper work," she says. "I'm general manager and treasurer, but

Photo Connection

By Cora Llamas

Building the Friendlier Face of Spain

As the Instituto Cervantes marks a month-long 'fiesta' of culture and arts, its amiable director talks about his passion for architecture, which has found new fuel in the Philippines



ROGER CARPIO

REMEMBER those aristocratic Spaniards of old faded movies, with their cruel features and sinister mustaches who frighten poor peasants with a crack of a whip? Or the equally arrogant friar of history who conspired to have Jose Rizal arrested, tried, and executed, even as he used the Filipinos' Catholic faith to keep them subjugated in ignorance and poverty?

These famous villains that Filipinos love to hate are the same enemies of another Spaniard: Senior Javier Galvan, Director of Instituto Cervantes, the Spanish cultural institution. Not that the man seems bent on brandishing his own saber to strike these icons out from our memory. Galvan is gentle, warm, affable and extremely courteous. By simply being what these icons are not, Galvan could easily win Spain's cultural war against the oppressive images left by a 300-year colonial regime.

Another image

His job, as Galvan describes it, is to "promote another image of Spain, not the old black-and-white that Filipinos have." His composure does not crack at discussing a difficult subject, but one can almost sense a hint of the passion rumbling underneath. "Spain is a modern country, one of the motors of the European Union," he says. "We are not only 'fiesta and siesta,' but we are hard-working with a fast-growing economy."

The Spanish conquistador has been replaced with the compassionate philanthropist. Galvan claims, "Our young people work with NGOs. Spain gives out a lot of money in development aid. In the Philippines, we give more than the United States, and we are second only to Japan."

The diplomat manages to say this simply and candidly, in probably the same spirit that he received the invitation to head the Philippine branch of the Instituto three and a half years ago. "I was surprised," he admits, "Most of the directors come from the linguistic fields. I am the only architect. I never thought I would receive a proposal like it."

He was also the only architect in his family, graduating with a diploma in Architecture from the Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura de Madrid in 1980, and a master's degree on Architectural Intervention and Rehabilitation in 1991. "My father was involved in his own businesses and my mother was a homemaker. My brother is an

economist specializing in marketing and my sister is a doctor working in the biggest hospital in Madrid," says Galvan. He was attracted to architecture, he says, "because it is a complete discipline. You had to combine humanities with science and technicalities."

Architect in Africa

In the 1990s, when booming projects kept many of his colleagues at home, Galvan designed and built structures in other countries.

"I used to be a quiet boy," he remarks on the irony. "I wasn't so much for travel whereas my other friends would go out of Spain for the holidays. But when somebody needed an architect to go to Africa, I said, 'Why not?'"

Included in his international portfolio are the housing projects in Africa, some resorts and other tourist-related estates in the Canary Islands, and an aviation training center in Eastern Europe.

"I saw Poland when it was beginning to develop, right before the fall of the Berlin Wall," he reminisces. "I saw misery that I did not see before during the Communist era. Beggars were coming in from Russia." One thing he learned while putting brick and mortar together in developing countries is "to make good buildings and designs with the scarcity of resources, while improving the quality of life of the people."

His designs for a school for Spanish nuns in the Caroline Islands allowed for the windows to catch the wind and bring it into the more spacious areas. "You don't need airconditioning to feel comfortable," he points out. "Just look at the capiz windows in the Philippines as they catch the breeze."

Galvan's principle was tested time and again in his work in the Philippines. Arriving in Baguio City shortly after the big quake leveled schools and tall structures, he felt that "the important thing

was to design something that will prevent future calamities. The main challenge was to plan construction with the hilly nature of Baguio in mind. Many houses and buildings had been built in places that are prone to sliding."

The revitalization of the historic zone of Vigan in 1994 followed soon after. "Vigan is the urban city from the Spanish era that is still standing," he enthuses. "There was a lot to be discovered. I would go to the site and read documents about churches from the archives. I realized that a lot of cultural research had to be done, but it was being abandoned."

A field day

Galvan had a field day traveling around the country, poring over books in libraries and piecing together the cultural and architectural landscape of the regions he was rebuilding. He maintains that many of our historic landmarks and heritage houses, often called "Spanish," are truly "something different, uniquely Filipino. Philippine architecture is a synthesis of many cultures. The friars tried to copy the models they knew in Spain. Because some of them came from Mexico, you can find some Mexican peculiarities in Filipino buildings. The Chinese craftsmen were another influence."

Then, of course, there were the indigenous houses constructed from native materials, with the purpose of withstanding the string of earthquakes that rocked Manila in the Spanish era.

The synthesis of Spanish and Filipino culture goes well beyond architecture, one reason why Galvan feels so much at home in this country. He was pleasantly surprised one day to hear the word "palanggang" while watching local TV; the Tagalog word for "water basin used for washing clothes" is apparently the same in Spain.

"We do have a lot in common," he stresses, "Our values. Our sense of hos-

pitality, we like welcoming people. The joy of life—we like to go out and meet friends outside; that is something you don't find often in other Asian and European countries. I don't feel like a foreigner here. Part of the Filipino identity is rooted in Spanish culture, and some of the Filipino's questions might be answered if he knows it."

Reacquaintance

Filipinos will get that chance at reacquaintance, and a good second look at the other more pleasant aspects of Spanish culture, in the month-long "Fiesta," the Instituto's cultural and art festival. The celebration will bring in the contemporary dance group Aurekan, the puppet show "Don Quijote," flamenco jazz concerts and guitar performances, photo exhibits, poetry readings, film screenings, and a street party in Intramuros complete with Latin bands, fireworks, and food stalls offering samples of Spanish cuisine.

Next on Galvan's timetable is the design and construction of the new Instituto office, a blend of modern architecture and the best of Filipino traditional elements, which is scheduled to open on T.M. Kalaw St. next year. He also dreams of putting up a skyscraper in Metro Manila. A posting to another Instituto branch in another country in a couple of years' time, after finishing his Philippine assignment, would be welcome, although "I will miss the Philippines."

Galvan's efforts in bridging the cultural gap have been recognized by his government. In 1999, His Majesty the King of Spain bestowed on him the Cross of the Orden de Isabel la Católica for "outstanding services to the Spanish culture and his work in bringing the Philippines and Spain closer together."

"Fiesta!" runs the whole month of October. Call 562-1482 to 85

Noteworthy

What A Guy!

Michael de Mesa finds his calling on stage, and this time, it's a family affair

MICHAEL de Mesa is, without question, one of the country's finest actors. From film and television, he has extended his resumé to include an equally impressive career in theater.

Over the last five years, Michael has performed some of the most coveted theatrical roles in the country—and all with Atlantis Productions, the theater company he calls home. "I feel really comfortable working with them," he says. "They are professional, creative, daring and giving."

In 1999, Michael was in the original Manila company of "Rent," where he played the role of HIV-positive Collins with much depth and compassion. He went on to play the role to even greater success in its Singapore run. Next Michael played Lea Salonga's tormented genius of a father in David Auburn's Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Proof," where he won an Alfr Award. Then it was on to "Tick, Tick... Boom!" and the riotous "The Rocky Horror Show," which played to SRO audiences in 2002. He was last seen onstage as the evil Caldwell B. Cladwell in the comedy musical "Urinetown" last December.

Michael returns to the stage in "The Guys" as Nick, the devastated fire captain who seeks help in writing eulogies for the colleagues he has lost in the 9/11 terrorist attack on New York City. Written by Anne Nelson, "The Guys" is the first dramatic play to be penned

about the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001.

Michael remembers that day all too well. As fate would have it, he was in rehearsals for the Manila repeat of "Rent," a musical that reminds us to cherish each living moment as though it was our last. He says: "9/11 made me realize that we are living in the end days. That with just one blink of an eye, everything can be lost."

Michael is doubly thrilled to be performing in the one-night staged reading of "The Guys" as it will be his first time to share the stage with his sister, multi-awarded actress Cherie Gil. "I am very excited to work with Cherie. It doesn't happen all the time. I always enjoy working with people I love."

This is one acting family that doesn't understand the meaning of sibling rivalry. Cherie has been to all of Michael's opening nights to show her undying support for her brother.

And though the "The Guys" will be staged for only one night, Michael considers the play immensely important for the times we are living in. "Life is short," he says. "We should live for today for we do not know what's in store in the future. We do not control our lives. Only God does. We should be thankful for what we have. We complain about so many things when there are others in worse situations than we are. But there are also good-hearted people who are willing to help lift our spirits and to put our lives back together again. And we should learn from them."

Bong Quintana

The one-night performance of "The Guys" is on Oct. 16, 8 p.m. at the Carlos P. Romulo Auditorium, RCB Plaza, Makati. Direction by Bobby Garcia. For tickets, call Atlantic Productions at 892-7078, 840-1187 or Ticketworld at 891-9999.



[illegible]

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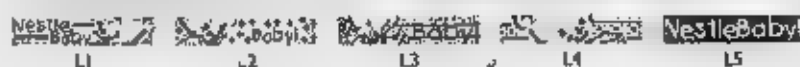
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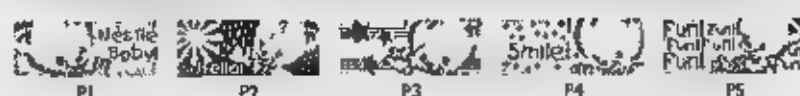
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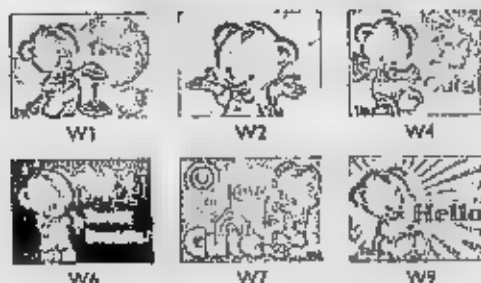
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From Duration Oct 9 - Nov 8, 2004 Per DTINCA Permit No. 2487 Series of 2004

**ANG
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A NEW TV SHOW CONCEPT TO POWER UP YOUR MORNINGS



You've been asking for new talk show concepts, so we're giving you one never-before idea. A talk-reality show!

Morning Star is about everyday topics seen from a fresh perspective, approached with a new spin and presentation. If the topic, for example, is about in-laws, you will see the candid reality of how an actress will meet up with in-laws who may not even like her.

MORNING STAR

Weekdays 10:30am Premieres October 1

One morning, they will talk about action movies, and we'll see some teen idols or dramatic actors go through some risky stunts and tests.

Another unusual ingredient...the show will feature a new pair or group of hosts every week. We assure you, the combinations are always surprising! For the first week, our hosts will be Dina Bonnevie and Danica Sotto. You will witness mother and daughter exchange quips and emotions like you've never seen before.

This fast-paced talk-reality show is sure to energize your every morning. You must be quick enough to catch it, because this early Christmas package runs on a limited engagement only. If you miss it this season, you will miss an experience of a lifetime!



10 Years of Entertainment Power

A decade ago, ABS-CBN's All-star Sunday Afternoon Party changed the landscape of noontime musical variety shows. It brought top-class musical performances, spectacular production numbers, engaging talk and an all-new vibrance that appealed to all.



To celebrate 10 years of A.S.A.P., no stage can be big enough to match the magnitude of the show's heritage. So, we're having two big venues: The Ultra and the Folk Arts Theater simultaneously. Don't worry, our TV cameras will be switching between the two so you can see everything on your TV.



On this single afternoon show, you will see the performances of 200 stars!

They will overwhelm you with entertainment numbers, they will give you a glimpse of the premiering ABS CBN shows, they will take you back in time, and make you show for at least 10 more years of A.S.A.P.

Presented by **200**
Stars in 2 venues: Ultra
and Folk Arts Theater

A.S.A.P.
10th ANNIVERSARY

TODAY at 12NN



YOU HAVE THE POWER TO CHOOSE THE NEXT STARS!

**ANG
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Once again, some people's lives will change from being ordinary teens into stars.
And once again, you will have a hand in it.

Star Circle Quest comes back as Star Circle National Teen Quest.
This time, the quest reached eight regions all over the country and even San Francisco, California, USA.
Out of the 15,000 who have auditioned, only five will
join the ranks of *Hero, Sandara, Joross, Melissa* and *Roxanne*.

They will go through a series of tests in acting, singing, dancing and other talents.
They will go through many days and nights of hope, fear, joy and tears.
You, too, will be with them throughout because we will count your text vote
as you "join" the panel of Quest Jurors *Boy Abunda, Gloria Diaz* and *Lauren Dyogi*.



*Don't miss this chance
to change some people's destiny.*

**Premieres October 11
WEEKNIGHTS • 7PM**



Hosted by **LUIS MANZ**
JODI SANTAMARIA



OVER 15,000 QUESTORS AUDITIONED
in Bacolod • Baguio • Cebu • Cagayan de Oro
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FULL POWER TV



SUNDAY • OCTOBER 10, 2004

ABS-CBN

A NEW HERO FOR THE FILIPINO

We at ABS-CBN are convinced it has been all worth it listening to your wishes and knowing, as intimately as possible, your true emotions.

It's the only way we can explain why your patronage turned our soaps into mega hits: Pangako Sa'yo, Bituin, Sana'y Wala Nang Wakas and Basa! Kasama Kita must now be experiences that you will treasure for many years to come.

Although Maria Hiram and It Might Be You are not enough for now, the "home of the soap" is launching for you another major offering: Krystala, Philippine television's first-ever "superserye." Featuring Judy Ann Santos, Krystala is the story of an ordinary maiden who was given the responsibility to save the world. She will be torn between her superhero duties and her human need to love.

With nine months of work for the pilot episodes, Krystala promises to be a spectacular show. The top-class production staff is headed by multi-awarded director Rory Quintos together with Tina Dayrit, Mae Cruz and Noel Naval. The script was written by screenplay icon Ricky Lee together with Beeth Amigo.

The main and supporting cast were transformed into out-of-this-world characters through make-up by Hollywood-trained Warren Paña Munar and Decile Bano's well-known expertise in prosthetics. The costume design was a collaboration between UP Fine Arts graduate Frasco Mortiz and famous designer Glenn Lopez.

Expect a lot from the action scenes because the cast members trained under world wushu champion Ronald Bingweol with movie veteran Val Iglesias as fight director. The best of cinematography and production design was ensured by the multi-awarded tandem of Totoy Jacinto and Manny Morfe. Krystala will also delight the eye with special computer effects never before seen on Philippine TV. For that job, they had to get Dodge Ledesma and Pedro Chuidian who are the best in the land.

Also in the powerhouse cast are Chin-Chin Gutierrez, Emilio Garcia, Desiree Del Valle, Danica Sotto, Alma Concepcion, Ronnie Lazaro, Susan Africa, TJ Trinidad, Michael Flores and Ryan Agoncillo among others.

Krystala is a superserye created to thrill every Filipino and make every Filipino proud.

And it's just one of our new shows yielding to the power of your wishes. You asked for them, you got them!

**ANG
LAKAS
MO SA
'MIN!**



HARIMON



SUPER Z



KABAGANA



LUMINAX



TERRACOTTA



**PREMIERES
MONDAY
OCT 11, 2004 • 7:30PM**

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SUNDAY • OCTOBER 10, 2004

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**ANG
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HARIMON



SUPER Z



KABAGONA



LUMINAX



TERRACOTTA



**PREMIERES
MONDAY
OCT 11, 2004 • 7:30PM**

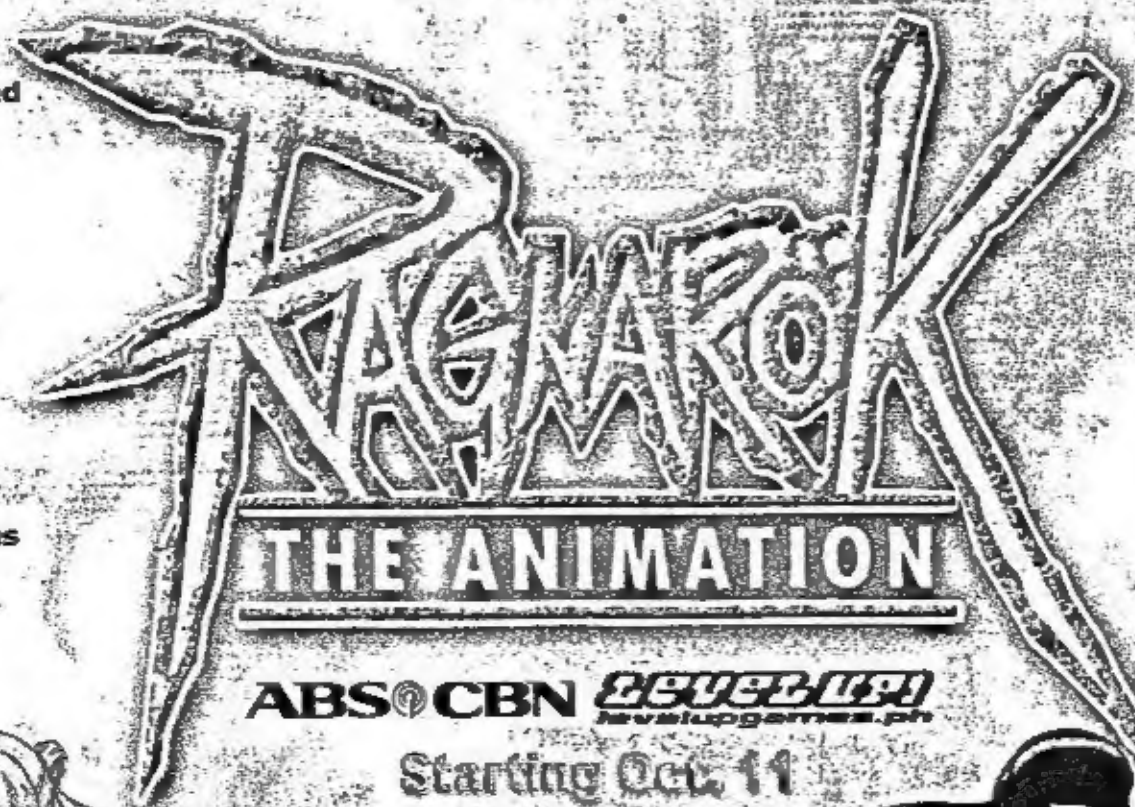


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Now they're coming to your home.*

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For almost two years now, 25 million people in 18 countries have been feeling the excitement of the sensational on-line game, Ragnarok. And the world's first massively multi-player role-playing on-line game has come alive as a sensational anime show!

ABS-CBN and Level Up! Incorporated have teamed up to launch Ragnarok: The Animation in the Philippines where the game has multitudes of paying users. Ragnarok: The Animation features Yufa, Roan, Taklus, Iruga, Maya, & Judia as the young heroes



destined to save the world of Midgard from doom. Anime fans will not only get excited following their battles but will also be thrilled to get Ragnarok merchandise, downloadable products and audio and video cd's. You asked for great anime, here's one that rules the genre!

ABS-CBN LEVEL UP!
levelupgames.ph

Starting Oct. 11
6:00pm



YOU ASKED FOR IT. GET IT!

Getbackers is another anime treat that will make your imagination explode in excitement. Also loved in many parts of the globe, Getbackers is a series about a duo that steals back everything that has been stolen. This team of Ban Mido and Ginji Amano accomplish their job with the use of special powers. For sure, they have the power to turn your afternoons into adventures.

ネットバックers

GetBackers

Monday - Friday - 5:30pm
Starting Oct. 11

